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The Nature and Function of **DIALOGUE IN THE BOOK OF SIGNS**



Johnson Thomaskutty

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The dialogue of the Gospel of John remains as one of the most significant literary genres yet to be adequately explored by scholars. The Book of Signs (1:19-12:50) in the gospel appears to be a major dialogue portion in the NT connected to the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. The central question to be addressed here is: 'How does John use the literary genre called dialogue within the gospel?' The *question and answer* and other types of dialogues in John make the gospel reader-friendly and vibrant in the presentation of its facts. Along with the central question posed above, a few other questions also have to be dealt with, such as 'What is the central theme that governs the dialogue of the BS ahead?', 'What type of information is conveyed through the dialogue?', 'How does John structure dialogue as a literary genre?', 'What are the peculiar literary characteristics of his dialogue?', 'What is the theological/rhetorical function of the Johannine dialogue?'. These questions have to be adequately dealt with in the process of exploring the dialogue of the gospel. We will also consider the following questions at the hypothetical level: How are self-revelatory aspects conveyed through dialogues in the BS? What are the ways slots and episodes function within the narrative framework? How do the content, form, and function contribute to the semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic levels of the dialogue? How are dialogues involved in expressing the aspects of the Johannine community? How does Johannine dialogue related to/different from other dialogues of the ANE and Greco-Roman world? All the tenets of the dialogue are not the concern of the research. Rather, we will take up the nature and function of two important dialogic concerns in the BS: *first*, the dialogue among the characters within the story; and *second*, the dialogue between the author/narrator and the reader of the story. The task of this study is threefold: investigate the development of the dialogue within the narrative framework of John, understand the peculiar approaches and methodologies of the author/narrator for framing the dialogue, and explore the theological value of the dialogue.



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DE EIGEN AARD EN FUNCTIE VAN DE DIALOOG IN HET BOEK DER TEKENEN (JOH. 1:19-12:50)

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(JOHN 1:19-12:50)**

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgements.....	xi
------------------------------	-----------

Abbreviations.....	xiii
---------------------------	-------------

Part One

Introduction.....	1
--------------------------	----------

1.	Rationale, Aim and Task.....	1
2.	Previous Studies on Johannine Dialogue.....	2
3.	Methodology of Research.....	19
4.	The Use of 'Dialogue' as a Literary Genre.....	26
4.1.	Use of Dialogue in Other Traditions.....	26
4.1.1.	Ancient Religious Traditions.....	26
4.1.2.	Ancient Philosophical Traditions.....	30
4.1.3.	The Old Testament Traditions.....	35
4.1.4.	The Synoptic Traditions.....	37
4.2.	A Proposed Definition to Dialogue in John.....	40
5.	The Plan of the Research.....	42

Part Two

Micro- and Meso-Analyses of the Dialogues in the Book of Signs...45
--

Episode One

A Glory-focused Revelatory Dialogue (1:19-2:12).....	47
---	-----------

1.1.	The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....	47
1.2.	Micro-Analysis.....	51
1.2.1.	Slot One (1:19-28).....	51
1.2.2.	Slot Two (1:29-34).....	60
1.2.3.	Slot Three (1:35-42).....	65
1.2.4.	Slot Four (1:43-51).....	72
1.2.5.	Slot Five (2:1-12).....	80
1.3.	Meso-Analysis.....	89

Episode Two

A Challenge-and-Riposte Dialogue (2:13-22).....1

- 2.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....
- 2.2. Micro-Analysis.....
- 2.3. Meso-Analysis.....

Episode Three

A Pedagogical Dialogue Leading to a Monologue (3:1-21).....1

- 3.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....
- 3.2. Micro-Analysis.....
- 3.3. Meso-Analysis.....

Episode Four

A Report-and-Defence Dialogue to a Narratorial Commentary (3:22-36)....1

- 4.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....
- 4.2. Micro-Analysis.....
- 4.3. Meso-Analysis.....

Episode Five

An Inter-Religious Dialogue (4:1-42).....1

- 5.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....
- 5.2. Micro-Analysis.....
 - 5.2.1. Slot One (4:1-26).....
 - 5.2.2. Slot Two (4:27).....
 - 5.2.3. Slot Three (4:28-30).....
 - 5.2.4. Slot Four (4:31-38).....
 - 5.2.5. Slot Five (4:39-42).....
- 5.3. Meso-Analysis.....

Episode Six

A Request-Rebuke-Response Dialogue (4:43-54).....1

- 6.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....
- 6.2. Micro-Analysis.....
- 6.3. Meso-Analysis.....

Episode Seven

A Sign and a Controversy Dialogue Leading to a Monologue (5:1-47).....211

7.1.	The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....	211
7.2.	Micro-Analysis.....	214
7.2.1.	Slot One (5:6-9a).....	214
7.2.2.	Slot Two (5:9b13).....	219
7.2.3.	Slot Three (5:14) and Slot Four (5:15).....	225
7.2.4.	Slot Five (5:16-18).....	230
7.3.	The Dialogues (5:6-18) and the Monologue (5:19-47).....	233
7.4.	Meso-Analysis.....	236

Episode Eight

From Sign-centered Dialogues to Question-and-Answer Dialogues (6:1-71).241

8.1.	The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....	241
8.2.	Micro-Analysis.....	245
8.2.1.	Slot One (6:1-15).....	245
8.2.2.	Slot Two (6:16-21).....	254
8.2.3.	Slot Three (6:22-71).....	259
8.2.3.1.	Sub-Slot One (6:22-59).....	260
8.2.3.2.	Sub-Slot Two (6:60-66).....	274
8.2.3.3.	Sub-Slot Three (6:67-71).....	280
8.3.	Meso-Analysis.....	286

Episode Nine

A Religious-Theological Dialogue (7:1-52; 8:12-59).....295

9.1.	The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....	295
9.2.	Micro-Analysis.....	302
9.2.1.	Slot One (7:1-9).....	302
9.2.2.	Slot Two (7:10-13).....	308
9.2.3.	Slot Three (7:14-36).....	312
9.2.4.	Slot Four (7:37-44).....	326
9.2.5.	Slot Five (7:45-52).....	333
9.2.6.	Slot Six (8:12-20).....	340
9.2.7.	Slot Seven (8:21-59).....	348
9.2.7.1.	Sub-Slot One (8:21-30).....	348
9.2.7.2.	Sub-Slot Two (8:31-59).....	354
9.3.	Meso-Analysis.....	367

Episode Ten

A Dramatic Dialogue Leading to a Monologue (9:1-10:21).....3

- 10.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....
- 10.2. Micro-Analysis.....
 - 10.2.1. Slot One (9:1-7).....
 - 10.2.2. Slot Two (9:8-12).....
 - 10.2.3. Slot Three (9:13-17).....
 - 10.2.4. Slot Four (9:18-23).....
 - 10.2.5. Slot Five (9:24-34).....
 - 10.2.6. Slot Six (9:35-38).....
 - 10.2.7. Slot Seven (9:39-41).....
 - 10.2.8. The Dialogue Turns to a Monologue (10:1-18).....
 - 10.2.9. A Community Dialogue (10:19-21).....
- 10.3. Meso-Analysis.....

Episode Eleven

A Forensic Dialogue (10:22-42).....4

- 11.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....
- 11.2. Micro-Analysis.....
 - 11.2.1. Slot One (10:22-39).....
 - 11.2.2. Slot Two (10:40-42).....
- 11.3. Meso-Analysis.....

Episode Twelve

A Glory-focused Revelatory Dialogue (11:1-53).....4

- 12.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....
- 12.2. Micro-Analysis.....
 - 12.2.1. Slot One (11:1-6).....
 - 12.2.2. Slot Two (11:7-16).....
 - 12.2.3. Slot Three (11:17-27).....
 - 12.2.4. Slot Four (11:28-29).....
 - 12.2.5. Slot Five (11:30-37).....
 - 12.2.6. Slot Six (11:38-44).....
 - 12.2.7. Slot Seven (11:45-53).....
- 12.3. Meso-Analysis.....

Episode Thirteen**A Conflict-centered Dialogue (11:54-12:50).....485**

13.1.	The Setting and the Dialogue Text.....	485
13.2.	Micro-Analysis.....	488
13.2.1.	Slot One (11:54-57).....	488
13.2.2.	Slot Two (12:1-11).....	491
13.2.3.	Slot Three (12:12-36a).....	496
13.2.4.	Slot Four (12:36b-50).....	505
13.3.	Meso-Analysis.....	509

Part Three**Macro-Analysis and Conclusion.....517**

1.	Macro-Analysis.....	517
1.1.	The Slot Development.....	517
1.2.	The Episode Development.....	521
1.3.	Some Significant Narrative Features.....	525
1.4.	Signs and the Dialogue.....	529
1.5.	‘I AM Sayings’ and the Dialogue.....	532
1.6.	Content, Form, and Function of the Dialogue.....	534
1.6.1.	The Content of the Dialogue.....	534
1.6.2.	The Form of the Dialogue.....	539
1.6.3.	The Function of the Dialogue.....	546
1.7.	Johannine Dialogue and the Community Aspects.....	552
1.8.	Contribution of Dialogue to the Johannine Narrative.....	556
2.	Concluding Remarks.....	558
3.	Further Considerations.....	574

Bibliography.....575**Summary (English).....625****Samenvatting (Nederlandse).....627**

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Abbreviations

AAR	American Academy of Religion
ABD	The Anchor Bible Dictionary.
ABR	Australian Biblical Review
ACNT	Augsburg Commentary on the New Testament
ACR	Austroasian Catholic Record
<i>AnBib.</i>	<i>Analecta Biblica</i>
ABC-CLIO	American Bibliographic Company Clio Press
ATF	Australasian Theological Forum
AThR	Anglican Theological Review
ATR	Australasian Theological Review
BCE	Before the Common Era
BDAG	Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature
BECNT	Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament
<i>BET</i>	<i>Beiträge zur biblischen Exegese und Theologie</i>
BG	Book of Glory
BJRL	Bulletin of the John Rylands Library
BS	Book of Signs
BT	The Bible Translator
BTB	Biblical Theology Bulletin
BTESSC/SATHRI	Board of Theological Education of the Senate of Serampore College/ South Asia Theological Research Institute
<i>BZ</i>	<i>Biblische Zeitschrift</i>
<i>ca.</i>	<i>circa</i>
CBQ	Catholic Biblical Quarterly
CE	Common Era
Cf./cf.	<i>Confer</i> , Compare/compare
chap.	chapter
chaps.	chapters
CWK Glerup	Christian Wilhelm Kyhl Glerup
DJG	Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels
DNTB	Dictionary of New Testament Background
DTIB	Dictionary for Theological Interpretation of the Bible
Ed.	Edited by, one editor
EDNT	Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament
Eds.	Edited by, more than one editor
e.g.	<i>exempli gratia</i> , for example
ExpT	Expository Times

FE	Fourth Evangelist
FG	Fourth Gospel
FTR	Faith Theological Review
GBS NT	Guides to Biblical Scholarship, New Testament
Gk.	Greek
GosThom.	Gospel of Thomas
HCBD	Harper Collins Bible Dictionary
IDB	The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible
i.e.	<i>id est</i> , that is
ISPCCK	Indian Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge
IVP	Inter-Varsity Press
JBL	Journal of Biblical Literature
JSBL	Journal for the Study of Biblical Literature
JSNT	Journal for the Study of the New Testament
JSNTS	Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supplement
JSNTSupSer.	Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supplement Series
JSOT	Journal for the Study of the Old Testament
JSOTSup.	Journal for the Study of the Old Testament Supplement
JTSA	Journal of Theology for Southern Africa
LXX	Septuagint
NCBC	The New Cambridge Bible Commentary
NICNT	The New International Commentary on the New Testament
NICOT	The New International Commentary on the Old Testament
NIDB	The New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible
NIDNTT	The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology
<i>NovTest.</i>	<i>Novum Testamentum</i>
<i>NovTSup.</i>	<i>Novum Testamentum Supplements</i>
NRSV	New Revised Standard Version
NT	New Testament
NTOA	Novum Testamentum et Orbis Antiquus
NTS	New Testament Studies
NTTS	New Testament Tools and Studies
OM	Operation Mobilization
OT	Old Testament
p.	page
pp.	pages
ResQ	Restoration Quarterly
RevExp.	Review and Expositor
<i>RHPR</i>	<i>Revue d'histoire et de philosophie religieuses</i>
RSR	Recherches de science religieuse

SBL	Society of Biblical Literature
<i>SNT</i>	<i>Studien zum Neuen Testament</i>
SNTS	Society for New Testament Studies
SNTS MS	Society for New Testament Studies Monograph Series
SPCK	Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge
SVTQ	St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly
TBT	Theological Book Trust
TDNT	Theological Dictionary of the New Testament
TNTC	Tyndale New Testament Commentaries
TPI	Theological Publications of India
Tran.	Translation/translator
Trans.	Translations/translators
TynBul.	Tyndale Bulletin
v.	verse
VCT	Vidyajyoti College of Theology
VJTR	Vidyajyoti Journal of Theological Reflection
Vol.	Volume
Vols.	Volumes
vv.	verses
<i>WUNT</i>	<i>Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament</i>
<i>ZNW</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft und die Kunde der älteren Kirche</i>

Part One

Introduction

1. Rationale, Aim and Task

The dialogue of the Gospel of John remains as one of the most significant literary genres yet to be adequately explored by scholars. The Book of Signs [hereafter BS; 1:19-12:50]¹ in the gospel is comprised of several dialogue texts.² This large block of the gospel appears to be a major dialogue portion in the NT connected to the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Dodd (1963: 41) rightly points out that, “Among the various forms in which the church’s witness and saving work of Christ is presented in the gospels, the one most characteristic of the Fourth Gospel [hereafter FG] is the elaborately wrought dramatic dialogue”. In view of Dodd’s statement, the central question to be addressed here is: ‘How does John use the literary genre called dialogue within the gospel?’ Though Dodd is one of the pioneers in dealing with the dialogue of the gospel, a concentrated study of the subject matter is scarce even in his writings. He (1963: 315) accepts the fact that “John’s teaching is given mainly in a series of long and elaborate discourses, partly dialogue, partly monologue, with a tendency to make a dialogue lead up to a monologue in which its theme is more fully explored, or expounded in greater detail”.³ The *question and answer* and other types

¹ According to classical Johannine scholarship, the Gospel of John is mainly divided into four parts: two small parts (i.e., 1:1-18 as the ‘prologue’ and 21:1-25 as the ‘epilogue’) and two larger parts (i.e., 1:19-12:50 as the ‘Book of Signs’ and 13:1-20:31 as the ‘Book of Glory’ [hereafter BG]; cf. Moloney, 1998). Brown (1966 and 1970), similarly, divides the gospel into four parts (the Prologue [1:1-18]; the BS [1:19-12:50]; the BG [13:1-20:31]; and the Epilogue [21:1-25]) and he discusses the *Sēmeia-Quelle* or *Sign Source* in detail (cf. 1966: xxviii-xxxix). Van Belle describes in detail the origin and development of the “*Sēmeia Hypothesis*”. He (1994: 1) says that, “The first suggestion of a sign source in the Fourth Gospel is usually attributed to A. Faure (1922). But as early as 1923 H. Windisch compared the opinion of Faure with that of J. M. Thompson, and further antecedents of the *sēmeia* hypothesis can be found already in the nineteenth century”. Though there are several theories with regard to the interpolations and other editorial aspects of the gospel, the basic assumption of many of the scholars is that John used a *sēmeia* source for the composition of the first half of the gospel (see Schweizer, 1841; Bultmann, 1963/1968; Bultmann, 1971; Fortna, 1970; Nicol, 1972; Teeple, 1974). For Dodd (1960: 297-389; cf. Marsh and Moyise, 2006: 52-53; Bock, 2002: 423-90) BS begins with 2:1 and ends with 12:50, with at least seven episodes (2:1-4:42; 4:46-5:47; 6; 7-8; 9:1-10:21 [with appendix, 10:22-39]; 11:1-53; and 12:1-36) and an ‘Epilogue to the Book of Signs’ (12:37-50). Barrett (1978: 11) broadly structures 1:19-12:50 as a separate section that deals with “Narratives, Conversations, and Discourses”. Similarly, Brodie (1993) divides the book into two, as ‘Book One’ (chaps. 1-12) and ‘Book Two’ (chaps. 13-21). The above descriptions give a detailed picture of the scholarly views with regard to BS. In the present study, we will consider the section 1:1-18 as an appropriate introduction to the entire gospel and the section 1:19-12:50 as the BS and analyse the dialogues of the latter section.

² This study concentrates on the BS (cf. Barrett, 1978: 11; Moloney, 1998) on the following grounds: *first*, a comprehensive treatment of all the dialogues in the gospel is beyond the scope of this dissertation; *second*, as the BS is the major first part of the gospel, a detailed treatment of that section may lead us, later on, for further explorations of the rest of the gospel (especially the BG; cf. Moloney, 1998); and *third*, the BS shows its special interest in the usage of the dialogue form from the beginning till the end.

³ It is a trite observation that the presentation of the teaching of Jesus in the FG widely differs in form and manner from that of the Synoptic Gospels. In the Synoptics there are indeed a few dialogues and monologues of some length,

of dialogues in John make the gospel reader-friendly and vibrant in the presentation of its message. Along with the central question posed above, a few other questions also have to be dealt with as 'What is the central theme that governs the dialogue of the BS ahead?', 'What type of information is conveyed through the dialogue?', 'How does John structure dialogue as a literary genre?', 'What are the peculiar literary characteristics of his dialogue?', and 'What is the theological/rhetorical function of the Johannine dialogue?'. These questions have to be adequately dealt with in the process of exploring the dialogue of the gospel.⁵

We will also consider the following questions at the hypothetical level of the dissertation: How are the self-revelatory aspects conveyed through dialogues in the BS? What are the ways in which dialogue episodes function within the narrative framework? How do the content, form, and function of dialogue contribute to the semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic levels of the dialogue? How are dialogues involved in expressing the aspects of the Johannine community? How does Johannine dialogue differ from related to/different from other dialogues of the time? All the tenets of the dialogue are not the concern of our study. Rather, we will take up the nature and function of two important dialogue concerns in the BS: *first*, the dialogue among the characters within the story; and *second*, the dialogue between the author/narrator and the reader of the story.⁶ The task of this study is threefold: investigate the development of the dialogue within the narrative framework of the BS, understand the peculiar approaches and methodologies of the author/narrator for framing the dialogue, and explore the theological value of the dialogue.

2. Previous Studies on Johannine Dialogue

In the current section, we will review Johannine scholarship concerning the subject matter of dialogue up to the present. Our survey of Johannine scholars and their treatment of the dialogue will help us to identify the questions that have been left unanswered and issues that have been insufficiently dealt with.⁷ We will draw attention to those scholars who have provided significant commentary on the subject of Johannine dialogue. The following authors are a few among many who had shown their interest in the field previously. Their views are reviewed here from the perspective of the current research project.

but critical analysis makes it almost certain that these are in general the result of an editorial process in which originally detached *pericope* have been combined, either by simply stitching them together or by supplying a framework which imposes a certain unity upon them.

⁴ The usage of 'dialogue' (i.e., singular) and 'dialogues' (i.e., plural) is used in the following way: the singular 'dialogue' refers either to the individual *micro-/meso-* level dialogue or the dialogue as a whole in the BS. The plural form is used to indicate groups of 'dialogues' within the BS.

⁵ In the process of analysing the BS, we will adequately look at these concerns. In the tri-tier analysis (*micro-, meso-, and macro-*) of the text, it is one of the most important concerns for us to reckon with.

⁶ While paying most of the attention to these concerns, we may also discuss other dialogic concerns, such as the dialogue of the genres and inter-textuality.

⁷ In his analysis of the Johannine characters, Bennema (2009: 2) takes a step similar to this.

In his 1925 article Rudolf Bultmann introduced his thesis of a 'revelation discourse source' as part of his answer to the literary and historical riddles of the FG. Bartholomä (2010: 21) points out that, "This thesis was further developed and executed in the several instalments of his commentary on John between 1937 and 1941".⁸ His commentary (1971) emphasises the development of the discourse material in the gospel. He attempts to observe the artistic composition of the gospel which closely relates the narrative-and-sayings-material. Bultmann explains the form of the utterance units even from the beginning of the gospel. For instance, John the Baptist's saying in 1:29b (i.e., "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!") is considered by him as an *oracular utterance* (p. 95).⁹ In his observation, the dialogues/discourses of John are the most important means of Jesus' revelation.¹⁰ While he considers chaps. 2-12 as "the revelation of the δόξα to the world" (pp. 111-454),¹¹ he considers chaps. 13-20 as "the revelation of the δόξα before the community" (pp. 457-699). In his analysis, Bultmann considers 2:23-4:42 as one of the central sections of the revelatory encounters in the gospel (pp. 130-202).¹² For him, encounters (pp. 130), witnessing (pp. 160, 167), disclosure (p. 187), self-revelation (p. 189), proclamation (p. 194), discussion and controversy (pp. 240-4, 329-42), and threats and warnings (pp. 347-57) are part of the revelatory process. Though Bultmann's contribution is significant in understanding the revelatory feature of John's dialogues/discourses, his strong dependency on the diachronic approach takes the attention of the reader away from the text.¹³ As a commentator who attempts to figure out the 'revelation-discourse source' of the gospel and the influence of the 'redeemer-myth' upon it, through a comparative approach, Bultmann's primary focus is not on the dialogues/discourses themselves but on their history and sources.

⁸ Bartholomä (2010: 21-22) says that, "Armed with the methods of literary criticism and the tools of the history-of-religions school, Bultmann suggested that the evangelist used for his own representation of Jesus' teaching an independent 'discourse source' that contained the Gnostic redeemer myth. The author of the Fourth Gospel thus took over a non-Christian source, pervaded by Gnostic mythology, in order to communicate his own theology of Jesus' revelatory incarnation". He (2010: 22) says further, "In addition, Bultmann repeatedly maintained that these 'revelation-discourses' were characteristically different from the synoptic speech tradition and that the relation of John to Synoptics already reveals a removal from the history of Jesus".

⁹ Similarly, about Jesus' utterance in 2:19 Bultmann comments that: "the prophesy has a characteristic form; its first part is cast in the ironic imperative of prophetic style".

¹⁰ Neyrey (2007: 9) states, "Bultmann quipped that in the Fourth Gospel Jesus reveals that he is the Revealer, but not much else. This 'information control' emerges as a central phenomenon in John and provides significant clues to the social dynamics of the community for which it was written".

¹¹ When discussing 3:1-21, Bultmann (1971: 132) says: "The chapter begins with a realistically described *scene*, which, however, is never brought to a conclusion; for the dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus, which begins in this scene, issues in a discourse by Jesus which is not related to any particular situation at all, and in which, from v. 13 onwards, the Revealer is spoken of in the third person. As far as the content of the composition is concerned, the primary element is the *discourse*". He (1971: 132) says further, "The same appears on a purely literary analysis of the passage. Its close relationship, both in form and content, to the Prologue and the discourses of the following chapters show that the Evangelist has taken it from the 'revelation-discourses' which he uses as a source".

¹² For Bultmann, encounters and revelation flow hand in hand (cf. 4:43-6:59; 7:15-24; 8:13-20, pp. 203-84, 329-42).

¹³ Bultmann (1926/1958: 12) states that, "the Gospel of John cannot be taken into account at all as a source for teaching of Jesus". Bartholomä (2010: 22; cf. Ruckstuhl, 1987; Ashton, 1991: 9-117; Theobald, 2002: 538-53) is of the view that, "Although his [Bultmann's] reconstruction of Johannine origins has been frequently and severely criticised, many have followed Bultmann's path and have discounted the Fourth Gospel's picture of Jesus' teaching as mere theological myth".

In his 1941 work R. H. Strachan discusses the distinctive features of Johannine discourse in comparison to “the brief, concise, pithy sayings that characterise the speech of Jesus in the synoptic gospels”.¹⁴ The author discusses briefly the characteristic idiom, lengthy discourse, articulated thoughts of the FG. He states that in the gospel Jesus’ own words and the evangelist’s commentary on them can often scarcely be distinguished. This is especially observable in the dynamic interlocking of the discourse-and-narrative portions. Strachan further points out that the OT prophets were reflecting “the mind and purpose of God” (p. 17),¹⁵ the fourth evangelist “has deeply reflected on the sayings (as well as the recorded deeds) of Jesus, and believes that in these discourses uttering the mind of Jesus” (p. 18). He views the idea of the revelation of the Father [through Jesus], the ‘I’ style of speech,¹⁶ the controversial aspects between Jesus and his interlocutors (5:1-47; 8:12-59),¹⁷ the role of the Christian missionary preachers,¹⁸ and the targumic interpretative style as the permeating features of the Johannine discourses.¹⁹ Strachan briefly discusses the discourses in the introductory section and touches upon the subject-matter of the dialogues in certain portions of his commentary (pp. 97-340),²⁰ his exclusive concern is not the treatment of the dialogues/discourses of the gospel.²¹ For instance, his treatment of the dialogue with the Samaritan woman, with a title *The Dialogue*, does not offer anything

¹⁴ Strachan (1941: 15-16) sees John’s discourses as materials that use the “same terse, paradoxical sayings that characterise the speech of Jesus in the Synoptic Gospels”. He also attempts to find direct and indirect parallels between the Johannine discourses and the synoptic writings. In this way he counts the Fourth Evangelist’s discourses as the finest end result of the short discourses of the synoptic gospels.

¹⁵ Strachan finds many of striking similarities between the prophetic and wisdom styles of the OT and the style of the narratives of John’s Gospel (17-26). Cf. Strachan, 1925.

¹⁶ The ‘I’ style of speech in John has to be seen against the background of the OT, wisdom books, prophetic writings, Hellenistic religious writings, Hermetic books, and the magical papyri. By making use of the ‘I am’ language, Jesus speaks the language of divinity. Cf. Strachan, 1941: 19-20; Strachan, 1925.

¹⁷ Strachan (1941: 23) states that the discourses of John often take the form of a controversy. He further says that it is necessary to recall that most of these controversies take place in Jerusalem, where the scribal opposition and the rabbinic disputation would be most strident and evident”.

¹⁸ Strachan (1941: 23) states that, “Each discourse in the FG is limited to an historical incident. Here is the habit of the Christian preacher or teacher, who would take an historical incident, such as the healing at Bethsaida, and make it the subject of a discourse or the occasion of a discussion”.

¹⁹ Strachan (1941: 18) notes that, “The form of the discourses in the Fourth Gospel may also be illustrated by the practice of Philo. Philo regarded the Pentateuch as inspired in every detail, yet when he is narrating, for example, God’s instructions to Moses and warning Pharaoh (Exo 4:2) he expands and interprets the discourse, with the passage as his text”. He (1941: 25; cf. Strachan, 1925) further comments that, “The Fourth Evangelist’s presentation of these long discourses is in line with the practice of the *targum*, which was intended to make intelligible to the non-Jewish synagogue worshipper the words of Scripture”.

²⁰ While the commentary is not treating the subject-matter of dialogue comprehensively, the author discusses certain portions (i.e., the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman, pp. 150-58; the discourse on the Bread of Life, pp. 182-98; a series of controversies [8:12-59], pp. 205-217; and others) where the dialogues, discourses, and controversies unfold. While discussing John chap. 9 Strachan (1941: 219) says, “It is unnecessary to enter into the vivid story in detail. It is full of repetition, assertion and counter-assertion, after the Johannine dialogue style” and puts it here, he never enters into the stories of John in detail.

²¹ In the introductory section (pp. 1-96) he outlines the major concerns of his work (i.e., the portrait of Jesus compared with the synoptics; the discourses; the evangelist’s conception of history; the purpose of the gospel; the environment of the gospel; construction and authorship; and the Logos conception in the gospel) and then goes on to his analysis and exposition (pp. 97-340) based on the things that are described in the introduction. In that sense the treatment of discourses was one among many concerns for him.

significant than reflections of a commentary writer (cf. pp. 150-8).²² In the work, Strachan discusses the element of dialogue in relation to his main concern of the significance and the environment of the gospel.²³ His moderate treatment of the discourses/dialogues does not contribute anything significant to the subject matter.

In his 1953 [reprinted 1960] work C. H. Dodd made a significant contribution to the field of Johannine dialogue. Dodd outlines the way discourses take the form of dramatic dialogues (pp. 303, 308-11), the way dialogue transitions to monologue (p. 303), and the role of the narrative (p. 313) within the FG.²⁴ He arranges the events and the narrative of the gospel in episodic fashion.²⁵ While the entire first chapter is described as a 'proem' (i.e., a *prologue and testimony*; cf. pp. 292-6),²⁶ the section 12:37-50 is described as an 'epilogue' to the entire BS (pp. 379-83). In his analysis, the act and the word are merged together (p. 384)²⁷ and the movements of the episodes develop "from narrative, through dialogue, to monologue" (p. 384).²⁸ After reviewing the first twelve chapters of the gospel, Dodd concludes that: "they form an organic whole. A continuous argument runs through them. It does not move along the direct line of a logical process. Its movement is more like that of a musical fugue. A theme is introduced and developed up to a point; then a second theme is introduced and the two are interwoven; then a third, and so on". His attempt to explore the leading themes of the gospel through the dialogues and their episodic development reaches into results (pp. 133-285).²⁹ But as a diachronic interpreter,³⁰ he sets the dialogues against the backdrop of the early Christian context, the Hermetic literature,³¹ Philonic writings, Rabbinic

²² Here, Strachan discusses the dialogue with the help of OT scriptures and attempts to affix its argument within the first century environment.

²³ Here we have to distance ourselves from Strachan as he was mainly concerned with the significance and the environment of the gospel, not the dialogues/discourses. In our treatment of the gospel, we will attempt to see the significance and environment of the gospel through the study of the dialogues.

²⁴ Dodd (1953/1960: 290) sees the BS as a dramatic unit that is formed out of seven episodes.

²⁵ For him the episodic development of the BS is as follows: Episode One (2:1-4:42); Episode Two (4:46-5:47); Episode Three (6:1-71); Episode Four (7:1-8:59); Episode Five (9:1-10:21, with Appendix 10:22-39); Episode Six (11:1-53); and Episode Seven (12:1-36).

²⁶ Dodd (1953/1960: 292) says that, "Chapter 1 forms a proem to the whole gospel. It falls into two parts: 1-18, commonly designated the Prologue, and 19-51, which we may, from the nature of its contents, conveniently call the Testimony". While Dodd argues that the first episode begins with chap. 2:1, he does not adequately consider the connection between 1:19-51 and 2:1-11. In our treatment, we will consider 1:19-2:11 as a single dialogue as the literary device called *anaphora* (1:29, 35, 43; 2:1) connects the entire unit as a single whole.

²⁷ Dodd (1953/1960: 384) says that "the truths enunciated in the discourses are given dramatic expression in the actions described". He (1960: 385) further says that, "The intricate controversial dialogues which accompany the action are a commentary upon it, indicating that the Christ who came from Galilee to Jerusalem and there exposed His life to His enemies in the source of life, the light of the world, the 'exalted' Son of Man".

²⁸ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 177) comments about the book as follows: "Dodd analyses the interplay between narrated episodes and discourse in John".

²⁹ In the second major section of the book he describes the major themes such as eternal life, knowledge of God, truth, faith, union with God, light, glory, judgment, spirit, Messiah, Son of Man, Son of God, and Logos (pp. 133-288). He invites the attention of the reader toward the argument and structure of the book (289-389).

³⁰ For more details about 'diachronic' versus 'synchronic' approaches, refer to Counet, 2000: 15-48.

³¹ In later studies scholars found difficulty in accepting the views of many of his conclusions on account of chronological reasons. In his works (1935, 1953/1960) Dodd gives a great deal of attention to the relationship between the *Hermetica* and the Septuagint, other works of the Hellenistic Judaism, and the NT. Pearson (2000: 483-84) says,

literature,³² Gnosticism,³³ and Mandaism (pp. 3-130).³⁴ In his work, the interpretation is supported with adequate analysis of the Johannine text. In his analysis of dialogue sections, Dodd does not adequately treat the speech units in relation to one another and within the narrative framework of the gospel.

In Dodd's 1963 work the entire discussion is set under two major titles: the narrative and the sayings.³⁵ While he concentrates on the narrative framework of the gospel (pp. 21-314), he discusses the sayings mostly in relation to the previous section (pp. 315-422). Dodd sets aside a few pages to discuss the function of the discourse/dialogue in John (pp. 315-34). As in the case of Strachan, he views John's form and manner differently from that of the synoptics. In his view, John has elaborate discourses that are made of partly dialogue and partly monologue. Dodd points out the gradual process through which the dialogue becomes monologue and how this is more fully explored in the monologue sections (p. 315). His attempt to interpret the dialogue against the backdrop of Greek (especially Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle), Latin (especially Plautus and Lucian), and Hermetic types of dialogues provides a diachronic flavour for the work (pp. 22).³⁶ He does this within a basic concern for expounding the historical tradition in the gospel. Dodd's attempt to interpret the gospel in terms of narrative development offers promising results (pp. 21-314).³⁸ But his endeavour to review the sayings, especially the discourse/dialogue framework, looks sketchy as he continues with the exploration of historical tradition in the gospel.³⁹ In this respect, his treatment of the sayings section provides minimal results. In his work, along with other topics, Dodd includes a section entitled "Behind a Johannine Dialogue

"Others have also pursued this course, but primarily in investigating the influence of Hermeticism on Gnosticism. In turn, the Christian and Jewish influence on Hermeticism".

³² Maccoby (2000: 898) observes that, "The Mishnah was edited and published between 200 and 220 [C.E.] and other rabbinic works, including the Tosefta, the halakic midrashim, the two Talmuds, and the homiletic midrashim were composed in the period 300-1000 [C.E.]".

³³ Rudolf (1992: 2: 1037) distinguishes between the early Gnostic schools of the first century and the great Gnostic schools and systems of the second century. He (1992: 2: 1037; cf. Yamauchi, 2000: 414-18) says that, "The second century is the period of the great gnostic systems and the flourishing of Gnosticism (this term is assigned to this in particular)".

³⁴ His successors find several of his suggestions incomprehensible since Hermetic, Gnostic, Rabbinic, and Mandaean documents, which he suggests are influential documents for the evangelist John, are found to be later developments.

³⁵ One of the articles of Dodd related to the dialogue, "The Dialogue Form in the Gospels" (1954), is partly reproduced in *Historical Tradition in the Fourth Gospel* (1963).

³⁶ By keeping all these aspects in mind Dodd reviews the following dialogue texts: 7:1-9 (322-5); 4:31-34 (327-8); 9:38-41 (327-8); 3:1-3 (328-34).

³⁷ In the concluding statement, Dodd (1963: 423) says that, "The above argument has led to the conclusion that the Fourth Gospel lies an ancient tradition independent of the other gospels, and meriting serious consideration as a contribution to our knowledge of the historical facts concerning Jesus Christ".

³⁸ Dodd treats John's entire narrative framework in a descending order as follows: *first*, the Passion Narrative (pp. 151); *second*, the Ministry (pp. 152-247); and *third*, John the Baptist and the First Disciples (pp. 248-314).

³⁹ In the second major section, Dodd deals with only a few dialogues in the following order (7:3-9; 4:31-34; 9:38-41 and 3:1-3; pp. 315-34), some sayings common to John and the synoptics (pp. 335-65), some parabolic forms (pp. 367-87), the sequence of sayings in the synoptics and John (pp. 388-405), and some of the predictions (pp. 406-20).

(pp. 41-57), where he analyses one of the long dialogue sections of the gospel (8:31-58).⁴⁰ Here, he (1968: 41) says, “The Johannine dialogue is an original literary creation, having in some respects more affinity with Hellenistic models than with the dialogues of the Synoptic Gospels or their rabbinic analogues”. His diachronic methods, historical interests, and related interpretative efforts are readily identifiable.

In his 1966/1970 commentary Raymond E. Brown, with influence from Bultmann and Dodd, places the Gospel of John against the Gnostic (pp. lii-lvi), Hellenistic (Greek philosophy, Philo, Hermetica; pp. lvi-lix), and Palestinian Jewish (OT, Rabbinic, Qumran; pp. lix-lxiv) backgrounds. He observes several similarities between the Johannine discourse and the OT poetic structure.⁴¹ Brown (1966: cxxxiii) states that, “If the discourses of Jesus in John are to be printed in poetic format, the basis of the quasi-poetic style lies in rhythm”.⁴² In the commentary section, Brown describes the utterance units in close relation to the narratives.⁴³ While considering 1:1-18 as the general introduction to the gospel, he considers 12:37-50 as the conclusion to the BS (1:19-12:50). He divides the BS into four parts which are filled with dialogues/discourses.⁴⁴ For Brown, the Nicodemus scene is the first introduction to the Johannine discourse and the first oral exposition in John of the revelation brought by Jesus (pp. 135-7).⁴⁵ Even though he discusses the dialogues and discourses at length, he does not treat the subject matter in detail within the work. Though heavily influenced by Dodd, Brown does not pay attention to the episodic development of the dialogue sections. While analysing the sections of the BS in four parts, he does not pay adequate attention to the dramatic flow and plot structure of the dialogues.⁴⁶

In their 1992 work James L. Bailey and Lyle D. Vander Broek attempt to define *Johannine discourse* along with many other literary forms of the NT (pp. 172-8). They organise their arguments under two sections: *first*, definition of the form; and *second*, the value for interpretation.

⁴⁰ Dodd (1968: 41) says that, “The long dialogue in John 8:31-58, one of the most powerful and most carefully composed in the Fourth Gospel, forms a unit within the sequence of controversial dialogues staged at the Feast of Tabernacles (7-8)”.

⁴¹ The use of *synonymous parallelism* (3:11; 4:36; 6:35, 55; 7:34; 13:16), *antithetic parallelism* (3:18; 8:35; 9:39), *synthetic parallelism* (8:44), and *staircase parallelism* (6:37; 8:32; 13:20; 14:21) are poetic in style.

⁴² Brown (1966: cxxxv-cxxxvi) also discusses the use of *inclusion*, *chiasm*, *twofold* or *double meaning*, *misunderstanding*, *irony*, and *explanatory notes* as notable characteristics in Johannine style.

⁴³ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 177) consider Brown’s commentary on John as a resource that “offers helpful outlines and explanations of the discourses”.

⁴⁴ The four parts of the BS are: *first*, the opening days of the revelation of Jesus (1:19-51); *second*, from Cana to Cana (2:1-4:54); *third*, Jesus and the principal feasts of the Jews (5:1-10:42); and *fourth*, Jesus moves toward the hour of death and glory (11:1-12:36).

⁴⁵ Though Brown treats the utterance units of 1:19-28 (i.e., first interrogation, phase one and two; pp. 46-54), 1:29-51 (the subsequent days’ dialogues; pp. 55-91), 2:1-12 (the first Cana event; p. 97), and others, he considers the Nicodemus scene in 3:1-21 as the ‘first introduction to the Johannine discourse’ (p. 135). Though he connects the Cana event in chap. 2 with the previous events (i.e., 1:19-51; p. 97), he considers the story as the beginning of a new series of events (pp. 97-198).

⁴⁶ While in the second major section he discusses the flow of incidents from one Cana event to the other (2:1-4:54), in the third major section his concentration is based on the principal feasts of the Jews (5:1-10:42). Though he connects 2:1-12 with the previous events (1:19-51), in his treatment of the first Cana narrative he considers it as the beginning of the subsequent episodes.

For defining the form of discourse, Bailey and Vander Broek choose John 3:1-21 as a model where they find the Johannine Jesus as a speaker of divine revelation.⁴⁷ According to them (1992: 173), “the speech of the Johannine Jesus characteristically involves double meaning and features that prompt misunderstanding or puzzlement on the part of Jesus’ questioners”.⁴⁸ In their review of the passage, they attempt to outline the dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus and comment about the dialogue to monologue development, the discernible design of the passage⁴⁹ and the features of syntax.⁵⁰ They also sketchily mention other discourse sections such as 4:46-54; 5:1-47; 6:1-72 (pp. 175-6). They conclude the first section with a mention of “oracles of self-commendation” through his ‘I am’ sayings (cf. Aune, 1983: 70-2).⁵¹ In this section, they draw attention to two important Johannine aspects: *first*, care for the development of Jesus’ speech; and *second*, the nuanced ways in which the Johannine Jesus uses language (pp. 176-7). Though, Bailey and Vander Broek attempt to provide a significant literary outlook of Johannine discourse, their arguments lag behind in several respects. The following are the limitations of their work as far as our study is concerned: *first*, they treat Johannine discourse merely as one among many other literary forms in the NT; *second*, they merely define the literary phenomenon rather than describing it; and *third*, they treat the subject matter peripherally.

In 1993, John Painter published his book *The Quest for the Messiah* where his arguments revolve around the usage of *quest*⁵² and *rejection stories*.⁵³ In the book, Painter attempts to bring to the historical, literary, social, and theological dimensions of the first century and the emergence of the quest stories (p. 1).⁵⁴ In his analysis of the quest stories, Painter sees the way history, literature, and theology of the Johannine community contribute to one another (p.1).⁵⁵ He (1993: 8-9) states, “a variety of questers and a variety of quests, for the Messiah, for wine, for the Kingdom

⁴⁷ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 172) argue that “Jesus’ sayings in the Synoptics sometimes comprise discourse segments, as in Matthew 23 or Mark 13, these consist essentially of smaller saying units that are put together. In contrast, Johannine discourse sections display a more sustained and unified character, presenting extended dialogues and monologues as literary wholes”.

⁴⁸ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 173) state that, “For John, it is fundamentally ironic that the divine Word (*Logos*) appears as the incarnate one. Throughout the Johannine narrative, Jesus as the incarnate one enters into dialogue with individuals and groups in dialogue (e.g., Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, the disciples, the Pharisees, the Jews). They seem to comprehend, at least at first, only the surface meaning of his words”.

⁴⁹ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 174) observe that, “Johannine discourse has a discernible design. It involves a question and answer form similar to certain Hellenistic literature (e.g., *Corpus Hermeticum*)”.

⁵⁰ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 174; cf. Louw, 1986: 10) observe, “as the syntax and speech lengthen in Johannine discourse, Jesus’ words become more self-revealing and theologically profound”.

⁵¹ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 176; cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 533-8) say, “In John, Jesus’ ‘I am’ sayings sometimes occur with no predicate (6:20; 8:24; 8:58; 13:19; 18:5), but they also appear with a predicate nominative (8:12; 10:11, 14; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1, 5). In every instance, the ‘I am’ revelations suit the character of Jesus’ speech in the fourth gospel, as he repeatedly discourses his divine identity and mission”.

⁵² Painter (1993: 465) says that, “The narrative of the gospel begins with a series of inquiries that reveal the depth of messianic expectations and express the quest for the Messiah”.

⁵³ Painter (1993: 251) states that, “John 5 is a definitive presentation of the rejection of Jesus. The rejection is definitive in 5:16, 18. The basis for the rejection is Jesus’ Sabbath-breaking work and his justification of this on the basis of his relation to the Father, 5:17”.

⁵⁴ Also refer to Painter’s other significant works: 1983: 31-61; 1989: 17-46; 1991: 33-70; 1997: 61-94.

⁵⁵ As in the case of Dodd, here Painter (1993: 33-136) sets the Qumran, Philonic, Hermetic, Gnostic, and Roman writings as the influential documents for the Gospel of John.

water, healing and life, for bread, and ultimately for Jesus". In his view, in majority of the cases the quests are presented in dialogue formats and sometimes in monologues.⁵⁶ Painter emphasises the usage of literary and rhetorical devices, dramatic plot-structure, conflict and characterization aspects, linguistic phenomena, and various other features of the quests within the gospel. The book further describes the way the messianic and the revelatory aspects are highlighted in the gospel in order to convince the reader. Painter attempts to concentrate on the quest for the Messiah and to capture something of the distinctive character of the Johannine writings (p. 466). With this intention he extends the scope of his study even to the first epistle of John (pp. 437-64). Even when he attempts to deal with the dialogic language of John,⁵⁷ he scarcely employs an in-depth analysis of the subject matter.⁵⁸ Painter's work is an important source for the study of the dialogues, but it is not a work that deals with the topic as an exclusive concern.

In her 2004 work Jo-Ann A. Brant states that dialogue is the major form of action in John.⁵⁹ She explores the Greek tragedies in order to see how dialogue was used as the major form of action and she draws out the implications of her study for the interpretation of John's Gospel (cf. Matson, 2005).⁶⁰ In the book, Brant delineates how John's story is constructed focusing more on the speech of its characters, just as in the case of the established and proven methods of dramatic composition found in Greek tragedy (p. 256; cf. Bennema, 2009: 9). Jesus is engaged in verbal duels with his interlocutors that culminate in his glorious death.⁶¹ This interdisciplinary approach, which combines literary biblical criticism and drama, opens up new avenues of research yet to be done. The suggestion to approach the gospel from the perspective of the ancient tragedies and from the interdisciplinary approach helps the reader to solve many of the interpretative difficulties of the gospel. With insights from the Greek tragedies, Brant attempts to see the episodic structure, transitions and plot features (such as reversal [*peripeteia*; pp. 43-50], recognition [*anagnōrisis*; pp.

⁵⁶ Painter (1993: 212) says, "The diversity of questers portrayed (the Baptist; disciples of the Baptist and their associates; the mother of Jesus; Nicodemus, a Pharisee, a ruler; Samaritans; a nobleman; a Galilean crowd; Mary and Martha; Greeks, Mary Magdalene) seeking Jesus reveals the universality of the quest, and all are questers until they come to Jesus".

⁵⁷ For instance, Painter (1993: 254; also see in 221) says, "In the dialogue between Jesus and the crowd (6:22-35) there are four sayings of the crowd to Jesus (6:25, 28, 30, 34) and four *responses* by Jesus to the crowd (6:26, 29, 32, 35). This makes clear the initiative of the crowd and the responsive nature of Jesus' sayings". This is one of the several instances in which Painter treats the dialogues of John without having adequate analysis.

⁵⁸ In his work, Painter does not treat the utterance units of the characters with utmost care and concentration. He picks up utterances that are related to the aspect of quests.

⁵⁹ Brant structures her book under the following four major sections: *first*, Dramatic Structure (pp. 16-73); *second*, Speech as Action (pp. 74-158); *third*, Dramatis Personae and the Illusion of Identity (pp. 159-232); and *fourth*, Death Becomes Him (pp. 233-55).

⁶⁰ In the "Speech as Action" section, Brant explores three major aspects: *first*, Speech as Gesture (pp. 77-114); *second*, Speech as Deed (pp. 114-49); and *third*, A Dialogue in Action (pp. 149-58). In the third section, she exemplifies the way a dialogue in John takes the form of an action by analysing the bread-of-life discourse as a model text.

⁶¹ Brant (2004: 75) says, "The prominent role that dialogue and direct speech play in the Fourth Gospel calls for attention to the capacity of language to perform multiple functions in one literary context". She (2004: 75-6) further says, "From a pragmatic perspective, the analytical tools provided by those who study dramatic language provide heuristic devices for differentiating and identifying the various services rendered by Johannine dialogue in the construction of its dramatic world and action. From a hermeneutical perspective, these tools may fit passages with readings that make good sense of what is happening in them".

50-7] and suffering [*pathos*; pp. 57-63]),⁶² and the usage of dramatic axis of action in the Gospel.⁶³ The development of the story mostly around the temple at Jerusalem, the accreted conflict dialogues between Jesus and his interlocutors (pp. 140-9),⁶⁴ and the usage of the dramatic verbal abuse known as ‘flyting’ provide new force for the interpretation of the gospel (pp. 12-19). In her study, Brant observes that dialogue and drama are integrally connected within the narrative framework of John. Even though Brant’s work is a compelling contribution that attempts to identify drama and dialogue in John, she establishes this aspect of the gospel in relation to Greek tragedies. Though Brant attempts to decipher factors such as the dramatic plot structure, the speech act, and the characterization aspects as key interpretative elements that connect the gospel with Greek tragedies, an adequate analysis of the gospel from that standpoint is scarcely dealt with. Moreover, although she argues about the sequential/episodic structure of the gospel, she does not prove the existence of such a structure through in-depth exegesis and analysis.

Brant’s 2011 commentary on John elaborates many of the ideas she had already explored in her previous work.⁶⁵ In the commentary, she attempts to fill the gaps of her 2004 work by analyzing the utterance units with the help of linguistic aspects, dramatic technique and rhetorical analysis. This helps her to bring the meaning of the dialogue more convincingly to the reader.⁶⁶ Gupta (2011) rightly states that Brant treats the Gospel of John as a play.⁶⁷ In her work, she includes the utterance units of the interlocutors in bold letters and describes the narrative interactions between them with the help of exegetical and analytical skills (cf. pp. 46-58, 74-9, 81-9, 103-5).⁶⁸ This pro-

⁶² Brant (2004: 42-43) states, “When Aristotle asks what sort of action is appropriate to drama, he identifies three means of moving the soul to pity and fear (the emotions that drama ought to arouse): reversal (*peripeteia*), recognition (*anagnōrisis*), and suffering (*pathos*) (*Poet.* 1450a 34-35; 1452b 8)”.

⁶³ Brant (2004: 16) says, “The Fourth Gospel conforms to many of Aristotle’s dictates for the structure of a tragedy (*Poet.* 1450-1451b). It is complete with a clear beginning, middle, and end, although the gospel may have two openings. The action of the plot has a frame typically labelled with the dramatic terms ‘prologue’ and ‘epilogue’. It is a representation of an action that is ‘heroic and complete and of a certain magnitude’ (*Poet.* 1449b)”.

⁶⁴ Brant (2004: 140; cf. Neyrey, 1996: 107-24) says that, “The conflicts of the Fourth Gospel, with their accusations, legal infractions, testimonies, scrutiny of witnesses, and rendering of judgment, contain forensic language appropriate to a trial”.

⁶⁵ In this commentary, Brant draws on things from Greco-Roman literary, rhetorical, and dramatic traditions.

⁶⁶ In his review of the commentary Gupta (2011) says, “the Gospel of John is treated as a play and she [Brant] speaks to you as you watch and coaches you on how plays work in the Greco-Roman world and what you are supposed to ‘get’ as you watch it. She is your guide to the ins and outs of symbols, coded language, dramatic technique, and identification of types in these settings”.

⁶⁷ Gupta (2011) says, “Brant’s approach to John is essentially an ancient theatrical/dramatistic and rhetorical analysis. She brings great wisdom from studying Greco-Roman literature, including social values, history, and the arts”.

⁶⁸ For instance, while commenting on the first reported dialogue of the BS (1:19-28), Brant (2011: 46) emphasizes the following: “The delegates’ abrupt question, ‘Who are you?’ (*Sy tis ei*; 1:19), with an emphatic use of you (*sy*) as the first word, suggests an adversarial relationship between the two parties. The Baptist does not treat this as a simple question but rather as an indirect accusation that he represents himself as a messiah through his actions”. She (2011: 46) further comments, “John uses verbs to describe the Baptist’s response that are appropriate to an interrogative: **he admitted** [*hōmologēsen*] **and did not refuse to answer** [*ērnēsato*], **but he admitted** [*hōmologēsen*] **that ‘I am not** [*egō ouk eimi*] **the anointed one** [*ho Christos*]’ (1:20). The three verbs used by John to introduce the short dialogue draw attention to either the contrast between the Baptist’s ‘I am not’ with Jesus’ ‘I am’ assertions, thereby pointing to Jesus’ superiority or the contrast between the Baptist and Peter, who three times denies that he is a disciple (18:17, 25-27)”.

the reader a better grasp of the dialogue from the linguistic, rhetorical, and dramatic standpoints. But in the overall framework of the commentary, Brant treats the dialogue sections merely as elements of the narrative.⁶⁹ She does not organize the dialogue sections as a literary genre and does not emphasize its significance for the narrative flow of the gospel. In this way, in her work, dialogues are submerged into her theological focus.⁷⁰

In her 1999/2003 publication, Sandra M. Schneiders reviews the encounter stories of John. She builds the storyline toward the purpose statement of the gospel, “written that you may believe” (20:31).⁷¹ One of the significant features of her work is the treatment of the key texts with the help of historical (pp. 134-5, 150-2, 173-4), literary (pp. 135-6, 152-61), dramatic,⁷² theological (pp. 136-7, 161-5, 174-9), and hermeneutical aspects.⁷³ In Schneiders’ analysis, along with other features, she highlights both the characterial dialogue within the text and the narrator-and-reader interaction.⁷⁴ But the main problem with her analysis is the gaps that she creates between the texts. For instance, after dealing with the text in 3:1-15 (pp. 117-25), she jumps over to discuss 4:1-42 (pp. 126-48).⁷⁵ Similarly, after analysing the texts in 5:1-18 and 9:1-41 together (pp. 149-70),⁷⁶ she straightaway invites the attention of the reader to the text in 11:1-53 (pp. 171-83).⁷⁷ As this is the trend of her work, the reader of the book is not able to gather a sequential/episodic and

⁶⁹ Brant does not take the initiative to distinguish between the discourse and the narrative sections and treat them relationally. But rather she treats the entire gospel of John as a single whole.

⁷⁰ Brant (2011) is not serious, as in the case of Dodd (1953), about the episodic development of the gospel or about the outline of the gospel on the basis of the dialogic sequence.

⁷¹ This is reflected through the title of the book, *Written That You May Believe: Encountering Jesus in the Fourth Gospel*.

⁷² Schneiders also considers the dramatic aspects of John’s Gospel in her discussion. She (1999/2003: 157; cf. Flanagan, 1981: 264-70; Martyn, 1979: 24-33) says, “The whole Fourth Gospel has been seen as a forensic drama or collection of dramas.... Throughout the narrative the classical dramatic convention of having only two characters on stage at one time prevails: Jesus and his disciples; Jesus and the blind man; the healed man and his neighbours (who function as a single character like a Greek chorus); the man and the Pharisees (again a collective character); ‘the Jews’ and the parents (who speak with one voice); ‘the Jews’ and the man; Jesus and the expelled man; Jesus and the Pharisees”.

⁷³ Schneiders, as a feminist interpreter, reflects things from a feminist hermeneutical point of view. While reflecting on John 3:1-15 she (1999/2003: 122) says, “Christians have, for centuries, read this passage without realizing that the Fourth Evangelist here supplies us, through the voice of Jesus, with one of the clearest NT images of the femininity of God. The Spirit is the one of whom we are *born* spiritually in the waters of baptism, just as we are born physically of our mothers in the waters of natural birth”. She states this view in other passages as well (cf. pp. 126-48).

⁷⁴ For instance, after discussing the dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus (pp. 119-22) she goes on to discuss the interaction of the text with the reader (pp. 122-5).

⁷⁵ The sections 3:16-21, 22-36; and 4:43-54 are left out without having any explanation. In this way, two important dialogue sections (*first*, John the Baptist and his disciples, 3:22-36; *second*, Jesus and the Royal man, 4:43-54) are not considered in her interpretation.

⁷⁶ Schneiders treats the stories of John chaps. 5, 9, and 11 relationally. She (1999/2003: 152; cf. Tite, 1996: 77-100) says, “John 9 is related by the evangelist backward to the story of the healed paralyzed man at the pool of Bethzatha in 5:1-18 and forward to the story of the raising of Lazarus in 11:1-57”. Her jumping over from one encounter to the other, without explaining the Johannine narrative sequence, creates gaps in her interpretation.

⁷⁷ Significant portions such as the bread discourse in chap. 6, the discourse of the Jews with Jesus in chaps. 7-8, and the discourse in chap. 10 are not sequentially dealt with within her interpretation of the encounters. In this way, the reader of the book does not grasp the sequential development and the overall framework of the gospel. This is a serious interpretative flaw of Schneiders’ work.

comprehensive grasp of the Johannine dialogue. In her 2007 publication,⁷⁸ Frances Taylor reflects upon the encounter stories of the FG.⁷⁹ Gench, similar to Schneiders, considers both characterial dialogue within the text and the interaction of the text with the reader as important components. For her, John 2:1-12 and 19:16-30 are the entrance and exit points of Jesus' ministry (pp. 10-8), and she focuses on the encounter stories with that framework in mind. Hence, the section at the beginning of the gospel, i.e., 1:19-51, does not find place in her analysis. From the BS, Gench briefly explains the encounters in 3:1-21 (pp. 19-29), 4:1-42 (pp. 30-7:53-8:11 (pp. 51-63),⁸² 9:1-41 (pp. 64-82), 11:1-53 (pp. 83-93),⁸³ and 12:1-8 (pp. 94-105). In her fifth chapter, Gench reviews the 'I am sayings' of Jesus (pp. 41-50, 85-8).⁸⁵ But, like Schneiders, Gench analyses the encounters without establishing the connections of the episodes one another. Both Schneiders and Gench do not show prudence in their analysis of the utterances within the narrative framework of John.

In his 2007 article Paul N. Anderson attempts to interpret the corrective rhetoric of the Johannine misunderstanding dialogue in Bakhtinian terms.⁸⁶ He picks up the *ironic misunderstanding* along with the *heteroglossic* and the *polyphonic* aspects, in order to analyse the dialogue of John. Anderson (2007: 135) opines that, "misunderstanding in the Johannine dialogue is characteristically used rhetorically by the Evangelist as a specific corrective for particular sections of his audience". With influence from Bakhtin, Anderson explores the gospel from the Socratic dialectical point of view.⁸⁸ In his analysis, Anderson highlights aspects such as the re-

⁷⁸ Gench (2007) acknowledges the influence from the work of Schneiders at the outset of the work.

⁷⁹ In his 2009 work, Bennema also views the way Johannine characters come to a series of encounters with Jesus. In his study the focus is on the theory of characterization rather than on the dialogue.

⁸⁰ Gench (2007: 10) says, "In John she [the mother of Jesus] is present at the inaugural event of Jesus' ministry, the wedding in Cana (2:1-12); and she reappears at the culminating event of that ministry, at the foot of the cross (19:25-27). These two episodes frame the story of Jesus' public ministry in John and share a web of connections".

⁸¹ As in the case of Schneiders, Gench leaves out the dialogue sections in 3:22-36 (between John the Baptist and his disciples) and in 4:46-54 (between Jesus and the royal man). The dialogue in 2:13-22 also does not appear in her analysis of the encounter stories.

⁸² Though she analyses the disputed *Textus Adulterae* section, she completely leaves out the major dialogue in the gospel (chaps. 7:1-52; 8:12-59) in her analysis.

⁸³ The dialogues in chaps. 9 and 11 are analysed without establishing their connection with chap. 10.

⁸⁴ While she analyses how the anointing section in 12:1-8 is explained in relation to the washing of feet in 13:1-14, she completely leaves out the dialogue with the Greeks and other significant passages. She also analyses the encounter stories in chaps. 14-17 (pp. 106-16), 18-19 (pp. 117-27), 20 (pp. 128-41), and 21 (pp. 142-54).

⁸⁵ Gench (2007: 41-50) treats the 'I am sayings' of Jesus without adequately analysing them within a dialogical/episodic framework. In this way, some of the major discourse/dialogue sections (i.e., in chaps. 6, 11, and 19) are left out without having proper treatment.

⁸⁶ Anderson (2007: 133) considers the late Russian form critic Mikhail Bakhtin's theory of dialogism as a method which he "seeks to account for several levels of dialectical tension and interplay in great literature". At the end of his article, Anderson highlights three levels of dialectical tension and interplay, *heteroglossic*, *polyphonic*, and *misunderstanding*.

⁸⁷ Anderson (2007: 133) says that, "When ironic misunderstanding is used in novelistic prose, Bakhtin assumes that this feature is always rhetorical".

⁸⁸ Anderson (2007: 136) says, "The point is that Socratic dialectic probably served as a literary and hermeneutical precedent, if not a pattern, for the shaping of the Johannine witness, and this is also one of the models employed by Bakhtin in constructing his theory of how discourse functions in narrative literature".

dialectical thinking in literary dialogues (pp. 136-7), the dialectical Johannine situation (pp. 137-40), and the rhetorical function of the Johannine misunderstanding dialogue (pp. 141-5).⁸⁹ In his view, the Johannine misunderstanding dialogue is emerged out of the dialectical Johannine situation (pp. 141-5). Then he discusses the seven crises within the Johannine situation and their dialogical engagement by the narrator (pp. 145-58).⁹⁰ Even when Anderson puts a strong theoretical framework to the Johannine misunderstanding dialogue, he rarely shows interest in analysing the dialogue exegetically. In this way, Anderson's treatment of the dialogue is peripheral and he does that without providing evidences of the internal dynamism of the text. In his 2008 article, Anderson discusses the Johannine dialogue and its polyvalence from origins to receptions.⁹¹ At the outset of the article, he bids his reader to be attentive in reading the gospel dialogically, not monologically (p. 93).⁹² He outlines three modes of dialogue underlying the Johannine text, i.e., theological (pp. 109-11), historical (pp. 111-4), and literary (pp. 114-8).⁹³ Anderson (2008: 118; cf. Anderson, 2007: 159) emphasises that "hearers and readers in every generation are drawn dialogically into an imaginary dialogue with the Johannine text and its subject".⁹⁴ While he dedicates more attention on the narrator-and-reader dialogue, the charactorial dialogue receives scant attention in the work. In his articles, he does not provide a deeper understanding of the charactorial dialogue by means of available exegetical tools.

In her 2010 work Sherri Brown attempts to read the gospel against the background of the OT covenant metaphor. She suggests that the covenant metaphor can be better understood as an interweaving device in the process of interpreting the gospel.⁹⁵ For her, as in the case of Brant (2004), the use of dialogue in the Gospel of John is on par with the literary conventions of ancient drama.⁹⁶ The dialogue plays a significant role within the gospel as Jesus the protagonist poses a covenantal challenge and his interlocutors potentially respond to that.⁹⁷ While analysing the dialogue, she observes the literary and theological master plan of the evangelist within the holistic

⁸⁹ Anderson (2007: 142-45) observes the specific literary format of the misunderstanding dialogue in John.

⁹⁰ Anderson (2007: 145-58) observes the following seven crises as intriguing: *first*, between the Galilean prophet and Jerusolocentric authorities; *second*, between Jesus and John the Baptist; *third*, with the local synagogue; *fourth*, with Roman authorities; *fifth*, the anti-docetic corrective; *sixth*, the ecclesial corrective; and *seventh*, the engagements with parallel synoptic tradition.

⁹¹ Anderson (2008: 94) says, "In literature, valence refers to the ways a narrative connects with audiences and themes, and *polyvalence in literature* relates to many levels of meaning, embedded within the text and beyond it, transcending time, space, and form".

⁹² Another time Anderson comes in ideological connection with Mikhail Bakhtin (pp. 94, 118-9).

⁹³ Anderson (2008: 118) says that "literary, historical, and theological aspects of the Johannine Gospel involve dialogical realities from beginning to end, synthesizing them together is itself an interdisciplinary and dialogical venture".

⁹⁴ Anderson (2008: 119) says, "From origins to receptions, the dialogical origins of the Johannine tradition evoke new sets of dialogical encounter and reflection within its later audiences".

⁹⁵ Van der Merwe (2012: 1) says that "the vigor of Brown's study lies in her suggestion that the covenant metaphor is the very literary fiber with which the Fourth Evangelist weaves his story".

⁹⁶ Montonini (2012: 2) sees the works of Schneiders (1999/2003), Brant (2004), and Chennattu (2005) lying in the background for Brown's study.

⁹⁷ Van der Merwe (2012: 2) observes that "Brown . . . succeeds in demonstrating that the Fourth Evangelist used the conventions of ancient drama to render speech in action and also to convey the force of the dialogues that occur throughout the gospel".

framework of the gospel.⁹⁸ Looking at the gospel from a covenantal perspective, Brown recognises the coherent pictorial interwovenness of the various theological themes (cf. Van der Merwe, 1-4). While others begin their dialogical studies of the gospel from the Nicodemus event (chaps. 1-4), for Brown the dialogical study begins with the role of John the Baptist in 1:19-34. While she views the dialogue in John 2-4 on the basis of the positive interaction between Jesus and his mother at the wedding feast in Cana (2:1-12), she views John 5-12 as the intensely negative exchange between Jesus and 'the Jews' at the temple during the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7-8; cf. Brown and Montonini, 2012).⁹⁹ She also explores the dialogue of the second half of the gospel (chaps. 13-21) with particular emphasis on the passion narrative (chaps. 18-19) and then on the epilogue (chaps. 20-21). Though Brown claims that her analysis of the dialogue is holistic, her main thrust in the study is the establishment of the covenant-fulfillment paradigm of the gospel.¹⁰⁰ While she pays particular attention to texts such as 1:19-34; 2:1-12; 7:1-8:59; 18:1-19:42, and 21:1-23:1, she analyses the rest of the dialogue texts in relation to them.¹⁰¹ In sum, her study of John's dialogue has the following limitations: *first*, lack of exclusive concern on the subject-matter; *second*, the dialogue as means to establish the covenant-fulfillment paradigm; and *third*, the gaps that are created in between the dialogue texts.¹⁰²

In his 2010 dissertation Philipp Fabian Bartholomä takes up two important aspects for the establishment of his argument: *first*, the correlation between the alleged relationship between the Johannine discourse with the teaching of Jesus in the synoptics; and *second*, the assessment of the authenticity of Jesus' words in the FG.¹⁰³ Bartholomä (2010: ix, 300) states, "the study's result is that what we find in the Johannine discourses is a representation of the teaching of Jesus that corresponds conceptually to a significant degree with the picture offered by Matthew,

⁹⁸ Van der Merwe (2012: 2) says, "In this monograph Brown continues the Bultmannian tradition, rightly arguing that the Fourth Gospel forms a coherent 'sophisticated and theological unity' (see also Neyrey and how, in The Gospel of John [2007], he treats the Fourth Gospel in the same terms)".

⁹⁹ Brown (2012: 2: 1-2) says, "As a literary piece, John 7-8 is one of the most difficult movements in all of the Gospel narratives. When the dialogue between Jesus and the Jewish leaders and the crowds in the temple during the Feast of Tabernacles reaches its climax (8:31-59), it is the most passionate, and even vitriolic, conflict narrated in the Gospel. She (2012: 2: 1-2) further says, "Both sides of this encounter are very heated: 'the Jews' accuse Jesus of blasphemy (v. 48), and Jesus calls them children of the devil, the father of lies (vv. 42-47). The entire encounter brings people (and the readers) to a crisis, to a point where they are forced to begin to make decisions about where they stand in the mounting christological conflict between Jesus and the Jewish authorities".

¹⁰⁰ Van der Merwe (2012: 4) states, "the purpose of *Gift upon Gift* is to take recent work on covenant in the Fourth Gospel a step further by examining the Gospel in its entirety through a narrative lens that focuses on several dialogues that occur in the story of Jesus". From this statement of Van der Merwe, and through the argument of Brown, one can understand the following things: *first*, Brown's central purpose of the study is "to take recent work on covenant in the Fourth Gospel"; *second*, she uses the narrative lens of the gospel as a means in order to establish the covenant-fulfillment paradigm of the gospel; and *third*, within the narrative framework, she "focuses on several dialogues". In this way, a holistic treatment of the dialogue of John does not come true through her study.

¹⁰¹ As in the case of Gench (2007), Brown pays greater attention (by intention or not) to the two texts in which the mother of Jesus appears (i.e., 2:1-12 and 19:16-37).

¹⁰² There is no concentrated attention on 1:35-51; 2:13-22; 3:1-21, 22-36; 4:1-42, 46-54; 5:1-47; 6:1-71; 9:1-10:22-42; 11:1-54; 11:55-12:50 and other texts. This creates gaps in her analysis of the dialogue texts.

¹⁰³ Bartholomä (2010: ix) says, "a thorough comparison between the portrait of Jesus' words in John and the Synoptics in light of the larger question of the authenticity of the Fourth Gospel remains a *desideratum* of Johannine scholarship".

and Luke, though couched in a very different idiom". In the introductory chapter, he discusses Jesus' discourses in the FG with the help of statistical evaluation of words (pp. 1-5).¹⁰⁴ While in the first chapter he discusses the authenticity of the words of Jesus in John from the scholarly point of view (pp. 9-46),¹⁰⁵ in the second chapter he describes the methodological considerations (pp. 47-72).¹⁰⁶ In order to prove his thesis statement, Bartholomä analyses some of the key discourses of the FG in comparison to the synoptic teaching of Jesus in the following sequence: *first*, with individuals (i.e., Nicodemus [3:1-21] and the Samaritan woman [4:1-30]; pp. 75-108);¹⁰⁷ *second*, to the Jewish public (i.e., the bread discourse [6:22-59] and the light of the world discourse [8:12-59]; pp. 109-177); and *third*, to the disciples (i.e., the farewell discourse [14:1-31] and the post-resurrection words [20:11-29]; pp. 179-240).¹⁰⁸ Bartholomä further discusses the literary, theological, and historical perspectives (pp. 249-76), and toward the end of the study he outlines the implications and the demonstration of the thesis (pp. 277-300).¹⁰⁹ As a study that concentrates on the authenticity of Jesus' sayings in John in comparison to the synoptics, Bartholomä employs a comparative approach. In this way, his attention is divided between Jesus' sayings in the synoptics and in the FG. Hence, his study does not give full justice to the dialogues/discourses of John. Moreover, as in the case of the majority of the studies on the Johannine discourses, Bartholomä's study leaves out of consideration much of the dialogue material within the Gospel of John.¹¹⁰

¹⁰⁴ Here, Bartholomä (2010: 1; cf. Luther, 1960: 362; Kierspel, 2006: 133-34; Morgenthaler, 1982: 164) observes, "John's Gospel contains a total of 15,420 words of which more than half, i.e., 8,993 words, are direct speech. The percentage of speech material within the Fourth Gospel (58 percent) is thus similar to, yet even lower than, that of Matthew (66 percent) and Luke (60 percent). Only Mark has less direct speech (46 percent) than narrative material. Within all four canonical Gospels, most of the *oratio recta* is found on the lips of Jesus".

¹⁰⁵ In chapter one, Bartholomä discusses the authenticity of the Johannine words of Jesus in the Early Church (before Irenaeus, from Irenaeus to Augustine, and the early centuries; pp. 9-17), in modern research (the views: skeptical, moderate-skeptical, moderate-optimistic, and optimistic; pp. 18-43), and then comes to the heart of the matter, where he emphasizes the Johannine discourses/Jesus' teaching in the synoptics (pp. 43-6).

¹⁰⁶ Here, Bartholomä discusses: *first*, the historical intention of the FG (pp. 47-48); *second*, the authenticity of direct speech in Greco-Roman historiography (pp. 48-58); and *third*, the comparison of the Johannine discourses and the teaching of Jesus in the synoptics (pp. 58-72).

¹⁰⁷ Bartholomä observes significant parallels as follows: *first*, the dialogue with Nicodemus: the imperative of new birth (3:3, 5 par. Matthew 18:3 and Mark. 10:15), the importance of personal faith in Jesus (3:14-15 par. Matthew 19:28), and the emphasis on Jesus as the saviour who gives eternal life to those who believe (3:16-18 par. Matthew 19:28 and Luke 19:10); and *second*, the dialogue with the Samaritan woman: Jesus' identity as the true source of salvation (4:10, 13-14, 26 par. Matthew 9:6; 19:28-29; Mark 14:62), the foundational role of Judaism in salvation history (4:22 par. Matthew 5:14; 8:11-12), and the inauguration of a new salvific age in the person and ministry of Jesus (4:23 par. Matthew 11:4-5; 12:6; Mark 13:2).

¹⁰⁸ In the introductory chapter, Bartholomä (p.1) states, "The bulk of Jesus' speech material in the Fourth Gospel is contained in nine discourses or other extensive dialogues, which comprise a total of about 4,700 words". The nine discourses he mentions in the chapter are 3:1-21; 4:1-42; 5:19-47; 6:22-59; 7:1-52; 8:12-59; 10:1-42; 12:23-50; 13:31-16:33.

¹⁰⁹ In his analysis, Bartholomä's primary interest is on the continuous speech sessions (i.e., discourse type sessions). Hence, he neglects several of the explicit and implicit dialogues within the gospel.

¹¹⁰ The passages in the BS such as 1:19-51; 2:1-12; 2:13-22; 3:22-36; 4:31-42; 4:46-54; 5:1-47; 6:1-21; 6:60-71; 7:1-52; 9:1-10:21; 10:22-41; 11:1-54; and 11:55-12:50 are completely left out in his analysis.

Commentators such as Rudolf Schnackenburg (1980)¹¹¹ and Herman Ridderbos (1987/1998) focus on the theological framework of the FG. In the process of their verse-by-verse analysis they pay comparatively less attention to the dialogic outlook and dramatic development of the gospel. Barnabas Lindars (1972: 51-54) prefers to see the early Christian homilies interwoven with the gospel rather than to see a collection of dialogues and discourses within it.¹¹³ Even when interpreting the dialogues/discourses, Lindars considers them as part of the homilies. Commentators like C. K. Barrett (1978),¹¹⁴ George R. Beasley-Murray (1987),¹¹⁵ D. A. Carson (1991),¹¹⁶ and Andreas Köstenberger (2004)¹¹⁷ detail the historical, theological, and literary dynamism within the narrative framework of John. For them, the dialogues/discourses are part of the narrative framework of the gospel. While a majority of the classical and modern commentators observe the use of literary devices and dramatic features, only few of them pay keen attention to that subject matter. Francis Moloney's (1998) treatment of the speech units (with the homilies, linguistic and literary features) is one of the significant contributions in the field. But, he mixes them in the case of other commentators, everything together. In this way, the dialogue sections are treated independently of the narratives.¹¹⁸ Craig Keener (2003; also see Blomberg, 2001) argues that the discourses of John contain some historical tradition that is conveyed in the style

¹¹¹ Schnackenburg (1980), in his commentary, attempts to interpret the FG from a theological point of view. He titles 3:1-12 as "The dialogue with Nicodemus" (pp. 363-80; similarly 4:6-26 as "Jesus' dialogue with the Samaritan woman", pp. 423-42; and 4:27-38 as "Jesus' conversation with his disciples", pp. 442-54), he interprets it verse by verse. In that way, Schnackenburg does not strictly bifurcate between the narrative and discourse units and treat them both independently and relationally.

¹¹² Ridderbos' commentary on John is well characterised by its subtitle, *A Theological Commentary*. Just as in the case of Schnackenburg, he also does not treat the utterance/dialogue/discourse units independently of the narrative sections. See his treatment of the Nicodemus event (pp. 123-43) and the Samaritan event (pp. 152-72).

¹¹³ Lindars (1972: 51) says, "John's technique of holding over material from one section to the next indicates that he has used large, self-contained pieces as the basis of his work, splitting them up to some extent in the process of writing a connected narrative. It is very likely that most of these underlying pieces were homilies which he gave to the Christian assembly, possibly at the eucharist. Chapter 6 obviously suits this setting".

¹¹⁴ Barrett (1978: 12) considers the section 1:19-12:50 as a single whole and comments: "There are simple narratives containing little or no teaching (e.g., 4:46-54; 6:16-21); conversations, simple (e.g., 1:45-51) or, more complex and controversial (e.g., 8:21-59); and, often merging into the conversations, prolonged discourses pronounced by Jesus (e.g., 5:19-47). This disparate material is not left in juxtaposed fragments, but narrative, discourse, and dialogue are woven together into units, which in turn stand in recognizable relationship to each other". Though he comments on the existence and the interwovenness of discourse/dialogue sections, in the commentary he does not attempt to treat them in an episodic fashion.

¹¹⁵ Beasley-Murray (1987) observes the "dramatic development" (1:19-51; p. 22) and the dialogic progression (pp. 33-7; 3:13-22, pp. 38-43; 2:23-3:36, pp. 43-56; 4:1-42, pp. 58-66) within the gospel. In the process of describing the dialogues, he explains the literary features and the devices. But a dialogue/discourse-centered treatment is not his interpretation of the gospel.

¹¹⁶ Carson (1991) also interprets the dialogue/discourse sections of John with the assistance of literary/dramatic devices (for instance, 1:19-51, pp. 141-65; 3:1-15, pp. 185-202; 4:1-42, pp. 214-32; 6:1-71, pp. 276-303; 7:1-52, pp. 311-44). In his commentary, the commentary language, coupled with the improper division (for instance, he considers 4:1-12 and 8:12-10:42 as two separate larger units) of the narratorial segments, do not give considerable attention to the dialogue/discourse sections.

¹¹⁷ In his outline of the book, Köstenberger (2004) does not give much importance to the dialogues. In his analysis, he finds representative conversations in 1:19-4:54 (pp. 51-172). For instance, he describes in detail Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus (3:1-15; pp. 117-28), with the Samaritan woman (pp. 148-58), the bread of life discourse (pp. 223), the teaching cycles (according to him; 7:1-52; 8:12-59; pp. 226-75), and the healing of the blind man (pp. 276-319). But the dialogic framework of the gospel is submerged into his interpretation while writing a comprehensive commentary.

¹¹⁸ Just as the case of other commentators, Moloney seriously considers the discourse/dialogue sections. He, like the case of Barrett and Brown, provides notes on the utterance units (see pp. 80-3, 89-102, 113-50).

gospel writer.¹¹⁹ Keener considers this aspect more fully in the treatment of the gospel. Leon Morris (1995), in his analysis of the BS, identifies seven signs and seven discourses side by side.¹²⁰ This helps Morris to outline the gospel, focusing on the dialogues/discourses. While Mark Stibbe (1993) attempts to interpret the gospel from a narrative critical point of view and finds the way dialogues are interlocked within the narrative set up,¹²¹ Jerome Neyrey (2007) endeavours to uncover some of the social dynamics and rhetorics that help the interpreter to understand the dialogues better.¹²² In sum, in the majority of commentaries, the dialogic framework of the gospel is submerged into the interest of the commentators. As usual, the commentators treat the dialogues alongside the other aspects of the gospel in order to serve their own theological and methodological ends.

Our examination of the Johannine scholarship on dialogue reveals a few gaps (cf. Lategan, 2009: 478; Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 127-8). The above mentioned studies either lack breadth (only looking at a few dialogues or at a certain aspect of dialogue), or depth (only providing a cursory analysis of some dialogues), or both. This is obviously owing to the limitations set by each author's project or emphasis.¹²³ The following are the five major gaps we identified in the scholarship. *First*, in most of the cases the dialogues are looked at from a diachronic point of view (cf. Bultmann, Strachan, Dodd, R. E. Brown).¹²⁴ A study of Johannine dialogue that will *illuminate its function within the present text* (i.e., by means of synchronic methods; cf. Du Toit, 2009: 122) remains a concern to be thought about.¹²⁵ *Second*, the dialogues of John are mostly analysed in relation to other aspects (cf. Strachan, Painter, S. Brown)¹²⁶ or without exclusive focus on them

¹¹⁹ Keener (2003: 1: 53-80), in his introductory section, details the discourses of the FG. He discusses the oral cultures, note-taking, learning and memorisation in relation to the Johannine discourse. He (2003: 1: 79) says, "Ancient sources were far more apt to recall and report the substance of speeches than modern memories do; they were also far more apt to adapt and develop them than modern historians would. On most readings, John's discourses contain some historical tradition, but are in John's style and expand on that tradition to expound the point". This viewpoint of Keener is reflected in his analysis of the Gospel of John.

¹²⁰ Morris divides the commentary into eight main sections centered on the discourses: *first*, the prologue (1:1-18, pp. 63-113); *second*, the beginning of Jesus' ministry (1:19-51, pp. 114-52); *third*, the signs and public discourses of the Christ (2:1-12:50, pp. 153-541); *fourth*, the farewell discourses (13:1-17:26, pp. 542-653); *fifth*, the crucifixion (18:1-19:42, pp. 654-730); *sixth*, the resurrection (20:1-29, pp. 731-53); *seventh*, the purpose of the gospel (20:30-31, pp. 754-56); and *eighth*, the epilogue (21:1-25, pp. 757-77). In 2:1-12:50, Morris identifies seven signs (2:1-11; 4:46-54; 5:1-18; 6:1-15; 6:16-21; 9:1-41; 11:1-57) and seven discourses (3:1-36; 4:1-42; 5:19-47; 6:22-66; 7:1-52; 8:12-59; 10:1-42).

¹²¹ Stibbe considers context, structure, form, plot, time, author-narrator-reader dynamics, characterisation, literary devices, and the truth value as some of the important aspects to uncover the meaning.

¹²² Neyrey (2007) discusses the social location of the author (pp. 2-5), characters (pp. 5-7), role and status (pp. 7-9), revealing and concealing (pp. 9-15), and other significant aspects that are helpful in understanding the dialogues within their first century social matrix.

¹²³ See the analysis of characterisation in Bennema, 2009: 10-12.

¹²⁴ Scholars like Bultmann, Strachan, Dodd, R. E. Brown and others analysed the text over against the socio-religious, politico-cultural, and historical background of the first century CE. In this way, in their analysis, the text became secondary to the context in which it was written.

¹²⁵ Du Toit (2009: 122; cf. Petersen, 1978: 19) states, "in practicing exegesis, we should not use texts as windows onto their prehistory; we should read them as 'self-contained worlds'".

¹²⁶ While Strachan employs dialogue as one of the means to explain the significance and environment of the gospel, Painter interprets them for the sake of fulfilling his task of the quest stories. Similarly, Sherri Brown uses them as means to establish her main concern of the covenant-fulfillment paradigm.

(cf. Bartholomä).¹²⁷ On the one hand, instead of analysing the dialogues in relation to the narratives, they are treated as part of the narrative framework.¹²⁸ On the other hand, instead of analyzing the utterances within the Johannine framework, they are treated relationally to the synoptic utterances. *Third*, lack of adequate exegesis and in-depth analysis of the speech utterances in relation to the narratorial asides is yet another concern (cf. Brant [2004], Anderson).¹²⁹ As like Brant and Anderson use the Johannine (dialogue) texts with the intention of supporting their arguments. But that is done without having detailed exegetical support. *Fourth*, a good number of studies are incomprehensive as the authors treat the texts with wider gaps in between (cf. Schneiders, Gench, S. Brown, Bartholomä).¹³⁰ Because of this fact, the holistic picture of the dialogues is not adequately conveyed to the reader(s) (cf. Bailey and Vander Broek). *Fifth*, the two aspects of the dialogue (i.e., characterial and narrator-and-reader) are not treated proportionally by the authors. While the majority of writers focus on the characterial dialogues (i.e., Bultmann, Strachan, Dodd, R. E. Brown, Painter, S. Brown, Bartholomä),¹³¹ scholars rarely attend to the narrator-and-reader dialogue (with a possible exception of Anderson).¹³² But, both aspects require moderate treatment in the works of Schneiders and Gench.¹³³ Filling the above mentioned gaps requires necessary attempts from the Johannine interpreters so that the dialogue of the Bible receives adequate attention.

Moreover, some important concerns such as treatment of both the explicit and implicit dialogues, the consideration of dialogue as a significant genre (with the help of genre elements like *character*, *form*, and *function*) within the narrative framework of the gospel, a dialogue-centered interpretation of the gospel rather than the habitual practices of narrative-centered interpretation, and the exploration of the contribution of dialogues to the narrative framework are scarcely found at in Johannine scholarship. In sum, with the help of semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic methods, one must employ a comprehensive analysis of the Johannine dialogues within the textual horizon in order to illuminate this most important literary genre of the gospel.

¹²⁷ Bartholomä's attention is divided between the synoptic sayings and the Johannine sayings of Jesus. More the intention of the study is the establishment of the authenticity of Jesus' sayings in John.

¹²⁸ The treatment of the dialogues in relation to the narratives and their treatment as part of the narratives are two different things. In the first case, dialogues and narratives are treated as two different entities but function together to actualize the text. In the latter case, dialogues are treated just as part of the narratives.

¹²⁹ While Brant [2004] proceeds to interpret the dialogues of John in relation to the Greek tragedies, Anderson establishes an external theoretical framework of the Johannine misunderstanding dialogues. But in both the cases, the authors do not adequately analyse and exegete the dialogue texts.

¹³⁰ The analyses of Schneiders, Gench, Sherri Brown, and Bartholomä do not comprehensively treat the texts. They analyse representative texts of John in order to come to their own conclusions. In this way, gaps are left within the analysis of the Gospel of John.

¹³¹ The majority of commentators restrict themselves within the confines of the characterial dialogue. They reckon with the dialogic dynamism between the narrator and the reader.

¹³² In both of his articles Anderson does not analyse the characterial dialogues in detail. But he provides information about the polyvalent nature of the text in relation to the reader.

¹³³ Schneiders and Gench bravely show the aspects of both the characterial and the narrator-and-reader dialogue within the text. But their treatments do not show the breadth and the depth of the gospel.

3. Methodology of Research

The above stated scholarly views show that a holistic or in-depth analysis of John's dialogue is inconceivable within the limits of a monograph or a dissertation.¹³⁴ Hence we are compelled to restrict our scope to the BS (1:19-12:50), that is, the major dialogue section of the Gospel of John.¹³⁵ Moreover, there are multiple layers of dialogue trends in the BS. Analysing all the layers of dialogue is beyond the task of this dissertation.¹³⁶ Our task, therefore, is to identify the striking phenomena of people's conversation in dialogue-form and the narrator's dialogue with the reader and the dynamic interweaving of these two layers of dialogues within the narrative structure of the gospel.¹³⁷ At the same time we may look at other elements of dialogue (i.e., intertextuality or dialogue between/among genres) if the text requires.¹³⁸ In order to have a thoroughgoing study of dialogue in John 1:19-12:50, the present research will adhere to a problem-oriented approach (cf. Egger, 1996: 8).¹³⁹ We will treat the dialogue of the BS from a literary perspective, following all methods of literary criticism (cf. Moore, 1989; Du Toit, ed., 2009).¹⁴⁰

¹³⁴ Dodd's (1960: 289-443; also see Schneiders, 1999/2003; Gench, 2007; S. Brown, 2010; Bartholomä, 2010) sketchy analysis and interpretation of John's dialogues reveal this fact. In his analysis, Dodd considers 1:1-51 as a whole as the 'Proem' ('prologue and testimony'; pp. 292-6), 2:1-4:42 together as the first episode (pp. 297-317), 4:46-5:47 as the second episode (pp. 318-32), 6:1-71 as the third episode (pp. 333-45), 7:1-8:59 as the fourth episode (pp. 345-54), 9:1-10:21 [with appendix 10:22-39] as the fifth episode (pp. 354-62), 11:1-53 as the sixth episode (pp. 363-8), 12:1-36 as the seventh episode (pp. 368-79), and 12:37-50 as the epilogue to the BS (pp. 379-89). He then treats the second half of the gospel (chaps. 13-21) in two sections (the farewell discourses [pp. 390-423] and the passion-narrative [pp. 423-43]). In this way, he groups several dialogues together as a single episode (for instance, John 2:1-4:42). Moreover, he does not fairly treat the latter half of the gospel by keeping the episodic structure in mind.

¹³⁵ The insights of the current study may lead to subsequent research on the dialogues of John 13:1-21:25.

¹³⁶ Anderson (2007: 133) observes, with influence from Bakhtin, that "Because meaning reverberate with and against each other upon their utterance, transmission, and reception, the making of meaning is itself a dialogical reality". On one level, Bakhtin observes the "heteroglossic" character of language. On another level, Bakhtin suggests that discourse is always "polyphonic". In his article, Anderson (2008) discusses the aspect of Johannine multivalence, where he outlines the theological, historical, and literary layers of dialogues.

¹³⁷ Basically, all other layers of dialogue (theological, historical, and literary [in Anderson's view]) in John are integrally connected to the characterial and the narrator-and-reader layers of dialogues.

¹³⁸ In this way, we will be able to analyse the *interactional* (i.e., the communication between the narrator and the reader), *intra-textual* (i.e., the dialogue within a 'slot' or within an 'episode', in relation to the narrative), and *inter-textual* (i.e., the dialogue of a 'slot' or an 'episode' in relation to other episodes of the BS or the extended gospel or beyond the Gospel of John) aspects of the text. Stibbe (1993: 22; cf. Malbon, 1990: 177) uses these three concerns to interpret the function of the prologue (1:1-18) of John in relation to the rest of the gospel. But we employ the concerns with variations of emphases in order to suit the different aspects of our study of dialogue in the BS.

¹³⁹ Here, the study of John's dialogue as an exclusive concern by making use of the problem-oriented approach is a fresh attempt in the field of NT scholarship. In this approach, the features of the text suggest which method to be used. While a set of methods are available, the researcher uses methods according to the requirements of the text. I found this approach to be appropriate for the current study of Johannine dialogue after having three to four years of continuous discussions about this approach with Jan G. van der Watt (course: *Johannine Exegesis*; Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, Netherlands, 2010-2013).

¹⁴⁰ Punch (2010: 16; cf. Costa, 2012: 16-17) uses a 'problem oriented approach' as his overarching methodology while doing research on the *Pericope Adulterae* (John 7:53-8:11). In his analysis (2010: 16), Punch emphasizes that "the discussion will not be limited to one particular analysis type, but instead will utilize different methods based on the particular problem that is being addressed". He further says, "Attention will only be paid to the final form of the text

Exegetical analysis¹⁴¹ of the dialogue texts by making use of synchronic methods¹⁴² lies at the heart of the current dissertation (cf. Counet, 2000: 15-48). We will focus on all the dialogues of the BS and their interrelationship among themselves within the narrative framework. While employing all the available literary critical tools (cf. Beardslee, 1970; Petersen, 1978),¹⁴³ we will attempt to establish the dramatic structure of the dialogue.¹⁴⁴ By keeping the above discussed aspects in mind, we will discuss the phenomena of dialogue at three levels. *First*, at the *micro-level*, we will discuss the dynamics of the individual utterance units of the interlocutors, their interconnection, and their relationship alongside of the narrative, within the slot units.¹⁴⁵ Here, we may look at how the semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic aspects dynamically work within the slot units (cf. Tan, 1993).¹⁴⁶ *Second*, at the *meso-level*, we will analyse how the slot units work in relation to one another and how they form the episodes.¹⁴⁷ *Third*, at the *macro-level*, we will describe the holistic features of dialogues in the BS. At this level, the entire BS will be considered as a 'single literary whole' communication.

rather than to its historical development, to potential sources of the materials, and/or to the dates at which the pieces may have been incorporated into the Gospel of John". Similarly, in our study of dialogues in the BS, we will adopt a problem oriented approach and analyse the final form of the text of John.

¹⁴¹ Some of the exegetical guides, like Fee, 2002; Fee and Stuart, 1981/1983; Blomberg, 2010; Du Toit, ed. by Egger, 1996; Green, 1995; Black, 1995; Silva, 1994; Malina, 1993; Elliott, 1982; Rohrbaugh, ed., 1996; Counet, 2001; Hayes and Holladay, 2007, will be used for analysing the texts.

¹⁴² For more details about the distinction between synchronic and diachronic methods, refer to Du Toit, 2006. Punch (2010: 17; cf. Stibbe, 1992: 5) attempts to make a distinction between the earlier methods "concerned with the historical development of biblical texts . . . concerned with what lays behind New Testament narratives, rather than with their literary and artistic features of the narratives, nor their final form". Punch (2010: 17; cf. Stibbe, 1992: 5) says that, "New methods of interpretation were developed following the influence of other secular disciplines, the development of the literary-linguistic theory has likely contributed most to the changes in approach".

¹⁴³ Hayes and Holladay (2007: 91; cf. Alter, 1990; Frye and Lee, 2006 [1982]; Malbon and McKnight, eds) state that "literary criticism encompasses a broad range of interests": literary structure (i.e., how a text is arranged), literary style (i.e., techniques of language usage that distinguish an author or a text), literary purpose (what a writing achieves either as an expression of the author's intent or as a function of the text itself), literary effect (i.e., emotions associated with, or created by, a writing), literary strategy (i.e., how various elements are deployed within a single genre to achieve a certain purpose), and literary imagination (i.e., the world reflected in a text and the world a text creates in the reader's mind).

¹⁴⁴ In order to analyse the dramatic structure of the BS, we will use the written works published in that field by Brant, 2004; Hitchcock, 1923/1993; Elam, 1980; Strachan, 1925; Bowen, 1930; Hedrick, 1933; Lee, 1933; Schenke, 1993; Flanagan, 1981; Pierce, 1960; Connick, 1948; Martyn, 1968; Domeris, 1983; Parnsenios, 2010; Bowles, 2010.

¹⁴⁵ 'Slot' is a peculiar term I am employing throughout the study in order to indicate the independent units within an episode(s). A slot can be identified as: *first*, a self-contained unit within an episode; *second*, a narratorial unit that contains a dialogue explicitly/implicitly; *third*, a narrative unit that along with other slots decides the plot structure; and *fourth*, it can be a unit of its own characteristics, i.e., setting, dramatic framework, literary unity, rhetorical features, and development; but at the same time, it works in relation to other slots within an episode.

¹⁴⁶ Chandler (2002/2007: 196; cf. Horn, 1992: 260-66; Allan, 1992: 394-98; Merrell, 1992: 408-12) says that "the interpretation of signs by their users can be seen from a semiotic perspective having three levels": *syntactic* (recognition of the sign (in relation to other signs)); *semantic* (comprehension of the intended meaning of the sign); and *pragmatic* (interpretation of the sign in terms of relevance and agreement). In our study, we will attempt to analyse the dialogues by keeping this basic principle in mind. For more details about the usage of signs in literature, refer to Chandler, 1984: 14-45.

¹⁴⁷ An episode is comprised of several slot units and the slot units are comprised of utterance units. In this study, the dialogues between Jesus and Nicodemus (3: 1-11) and Jesus and the Samaritan woman (4: 1-42) form dialogues at the meso-level.

the author/narrator to the reader (cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 23-57; Van Dijk, 1994).¹⁴⁸ In all three levels, the narrator-and-reader dialogue will be analysed alongside the character dialogues (cf. Eco, 1979: 3-43).¹⁴⁹ Thus, a *triadic-layered structure* will be established in order to decipher the dialogic foundation of the BS.

In the analysis of the dialogues, along with other literary critical tools, we will employ the genre critical approach as the foundational tool (cf. Hernadi, 1972: 1-53).¹⁵⁰ For a proper understanding of the genre dynamics in John's dialogues, we may implement the genre critical theory developed by David Hellholm and David E. Aune (1986).¹⁵¹ In his article, Hellholm (1986: 13-64; cf. Aune, 1986: 65) describes the way *content*, *form*, and *function* dynamically interconnect within the Book of Revelation.¹⁵² Hellholm (1986: 13; cf. Aune, 1986: 65) notes that "genres participate in three

¹⁴⁸ Here, we will look at the way several episodes dynamically function within the BS.

¹⁴⁹ How the author/narrator communicates the message to the reader and how the characters between/among themselves communicate are some of the important questions to deal with. In order to address these questions scientifically, we will apply some of the rhetorical and communication theories mostly used in the NT scholarship.

¹⁵⁰ 'Genre' is a French term for a type, species, or class of composition. While Baldick (1990: 90) defines literary genre "a recognizable and established category of written work employing . . . common conventions", Chatman (1978: 18) considers it as "constructs or composites of features". Similarly, while Joliffe (1996: 281; cf. Freedman and Medway, 1994: 1-22; Dowd, 2006: 11-23; Strelka, 1978: vii-ix cf. Freedman and Medway, 1994: 1-22; Dowd, 2006: 11-23; Strelka, 1978: vii-ix) says that, "the term *genre* denotes a power . . . that bundles together features of texts", Warren and Wellek (1955/1977: 226, 231) consider the theory of genre as a "principle of ordering" for classifying literature according to "specifically literary types of organisation or structure". Here Baldick, Chatman, Joliffe, and Warren and Wellek agree in arguing about the existence of certain common features that distinguish a genre from other types. Carey and Snodgrass (1999: 68) defines it as "a broad, descriptive literary heading or classification that typifies the style or form of a piece of writing—as in drama, essay, fiction, nonfiction, satire, fable, or verse—and establishes the characteristics—subject, length, meter, rhythm scheme, intent, or effect—that set it apart from other literary works". Guelich (1991: 174) says, "the genre of a text consists of its literary structure and organisation (the formal components) and of its content with various levels of possible meanings (the material components)". Guelich (1991: 174) distinguishes between 'genre' and 'form', though he uses them interchangeably. He uses 'genre' as a broad category, a composite of numerous parts or 'forms'. Blomberg (2007: 298; quoted in Köstenberger, 2009: 104) speaks of genre "as a category of literary composition characterized by a particular style, form and content". Stibbe (1994: 54; cf. Davies, 1992: 67-109; Chatman, 1978: 18-19; Van Aarde, 2009: 381-82) argues, "Discussion of the literary genre of the fourth gospel has been remarkably rare in twentieth century scholarship. Even in the last fifteen years, when literary approaches to John have emerged in strength, this topic has only occasionally been discussed. This is a surprising 'gap' in Johannine research". Even when genre criticism was applied to John, the dialogue of John received scant attention.

¹⁵¹ The Apocalypse Group of the SBL's Genres Project (*Semeia* 14), under the chairmanship of John J. Collins, considered *form* and *content* as the major elements of a genre. But the *Semeia* 14 consultation discussed the role of *function* (along with social setting) in relation to *form* and *content*. John J. Collins (1979: 1-2; cf. Aune, 1986: 68-9) says, "while a complete study of a genre must consider function and social setting, neither of these factors can determine the definition. At least in the case of ancient literature our knowledge of function and setting is often extremely hypothetical and cannot provide a firm basis for generic classification". In our analysis, we will see how the implicit author attempts to communicate with the reader and the resultant aspects of the text.

¹⁵² In the 1981 consultation on Early Christian Apocalypticism (held at the Annual Meeting of the SBL in San Francisco), David Hellholm proposed that the definition in *Semeia* 14 be expanded to include function (cf. A. Y. Collins, 1986: 6). Yarbro Collins (1986: 6) reports that, "David Aune agrees that matters of function ought to be included in the definition".

separate, though related, aspects: form, content, and function". As suggested by Hellholm, study, we will treat these three aspects of the dialogue-genre, on the one hand, as separate categories, but on the other hand, as categories integrally connected to one another (cf. Cha 2002/2007: 189; see Diagram 1). We will consider the foundational aspects of Hellholm's model to understand the nature of dialogues in the BS.

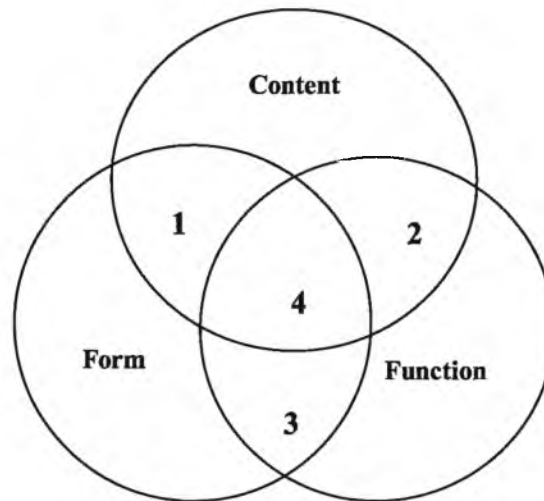


Diagram 1: The interaction of 'content', 'form' and 'function': space #1 is the 'content-form' meeting point; space #2 is the 'content-function' meeting point; space #3 is the 'form-function' meeting point; and space #4 is the common meeting point of 'content-form-function'

In terms of our research, genre elements such as content, form, and function are described as follows: first, *content* is the semantic aspect of the genre and it answers the 'what' of the text; second, *form* is the syntactic aspect and it well describes the aspects of 'how' in a literary work; and third, *function* is the pragmatic aspect and it delineates the purpose of the work (Muilenburg, 1993: 65-76);¹⁵⁴

¹⁵³ Hellholm (1986: 18, 22-23; cf. Yarbrow Collins, 5-6; Aune, 1986: 88-89) says, "the *propositional* aspect corresponds to content". For him, content is the propositions and themes (*text-semantic aspect*) of the genre. Baldick (1990: 86; Greimas and Courtés, 1979/1982: 57-8) defines content as, "the term commonly used to refer to what is said in a literary work, as opposed to how it is said (that is, to the form or style). Distinctions between form and content are necessarily abstractions made for the sake of analysis, since in any actual work there can be no content that has not in some way been formed, and no purely empty form". Barwise (1988: 23-39; cf. Lee, 1994: 23-35) attempts to distinguish between meaning and content in his own terms, but he accepts that *something* is the same (i.e., the *abstract property* remains as the unifying factor; p. 26).

¹⁵⁴ For Hellholm (1986: 23; cf. Yarbrow Collins, 1986: 2-5; Aune, 1986: 87-8), this is the stylistic (*text-syntactic aspect*). Baldick (1990: 86; cf. Greimas and Courtés, 1979/1982: 121-2) states, "It [i.e., form] can refer to a genre (the short story form), or to an established pattern of poetic devices (as in the various fixed forms of European poetry), or, more abstractly, to the structure or unifying principle of design in a given work". Baldick (1990: 86) further states, "When speaking of a work's formal properties, critics usually refer to its structural design and pattern, or sometimes to its style and manner in a wider sense, as distinct from its content".

of the text (cf. Tan, 1993: 50-89; see Diagram 1).¹⁵⁵ The interconnection among these three will be described in order to establish the dynamic existence of the dialogue genre in the BS.¹⁵⁶

We will employ the narrative critical approaches as another important tool for our research (cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 381-418; De Boer, 1992: 35-48).¹⁵⁷ In our treatment, we will approach the BS with the presupposition that it is a narrative and hence a performative art (cf. Funk, 1988: 3). Dodd (1960: 133; cf. Green, 2003: 37-66) says that, John is “in the form of a narrative with a brief philosophical or theological introduction . . . the narrative serves mainly as framework for a series of discourses (dialogues and monologues)”. In this study, our primary focus is not on the narratology of the book, but rather on the development and function of the dialogue within the narrative framework.¹⁵⁸ The narrative theory outlined by Seymour Chatman (1978) will be utilised for the analysis of the text (cf. Genette, 1972/1980; Baldick, 1990: 145).¹⁵⁹ Chatman explains the

¹⁵⁵ Hellholm (1986: 18, 23; cf. Yarbrow Collins, 1986: 6-7; Aune, 1986: 89-91) says, “the *illocutionary* and *perlocutionary* aspects correspond to the function”. For him, function is the communicative aspect (*text-pragmatic aspect*) of the genre. Baldick (1990: 88; cf. Greimas and Courtés, 1979/1982: 124-7) defines ‘function’ as “a concept employed in structuralist literary theory in two senses: either as a kind of use to which language can be directed, or as an action contributing towards the development of a narrative”.

¹⁵⁶ Like Hellholm, Buss (2007: 9; cf. Buss, 1999: 247) adopts form critic Herman Gunkel’s three criteria for the identification of a genre: life situation, ideational content, and verbal form. Berkenkotter and Huckin (1993: 475-509; quoted in Joliffe, 1996: 284) agree that “Genre knowledge embraces form and content, including a sense of what content is appropriate to a particular purpose in a particular situation at a particular point in time”. In line with Hellholm, Berkenkotter/Huckin, Buss, and Aune (1987: 32-36) also consider three generic features of literature such as the subject matter or content (i.e., the specific *type* described), the form (i.e., the nature), and the function (i.e., the purpose of the author). Buss (2007: 9-10) says, “Any one of these three criteria can be sufficient to constitute a genre . . . The three criteria—life process, content, and verbal form—correlate with each other to a certain extent”. He also says that Gunkel always listed content before verbal form and came to list *Sitz im Leben* first in terms of importance; however, verbal form provided for him a convenient entrée (see Buss, 1999: 247). Berkenkotter and Huckin also direct our attention toward the tri-tier aspects within a genre. For more details about Genre Theory refer to Strelka, 1978; Dowd, Stevenson and Strong, 2006; Freedman and Medway, 1994. Also Hornblower and Spawforth (1996: 630; quoted in Köstenberger, 2009: 104) define genre as “a grouping of texts related within the system of literature by their sharing recognizably functionalised features of form and content”. Some other definitions are described here: *first*, Burridge (1992: 49) opines that, “No genres develop *ex nihilo*; instead, they extend or amalgamate other existing genres. Developed genres are open to further mixture and modulation”. Burridge (1992: 52; also see Burridge, 2007: 23-4) says further that, “Genre is a system of communication of *meaning*. Before we can understand the meaning of a text, we must master its genre. Genre will then be our guide to help us re-construct the original meaning, check our interpretation to see if it is valid and to assist in evaluating the worth of the text and communication”; *second*, Thatcher (1994: 137; Carter, 2008: 123-24; Köstenberger, 2009: 104) defines genre as “a certain group of writings sharing a certain set of conventions recognisable in a certain social matrix”; *third*, Frow (2005: 10; cf. Clute and Nicholls, 1993: 483; Turner, 1996: 286-88) says, “Genre, we might say, is a set of conventional and highly organised constraints on the production and interpretation of meaning”. Also see Kermode, 1979: 162; Tuckett, 1987: 68-75.

¹⁵⁷ Refer to some of the materials on narrative criticism/hermeneutics: Uspensky, 1973; Lee, 2004: 163-218; Berlin, 1982: 71-113; Court, 1997; Templeton, 1999; Helms, 1988; Botha, 1977/1991: 71-87; Green and Pasquarello III, eds., 2003; Fairclough, 1992; Foucault, 1971.

¹⁵⁸ We analyse the dialogue in relation to the narrative due to the fact that, in John, the dialogue appears within the framework of the narrative. Therefore, we employ the narrative insights in the study of the dialogue.

¹⁵⁹ In the process of interpretation, we will look at the narrative aspects such as settings, characterisation, plot structure, point of view, thematic development, dramatic development, stylistics and rhetorics, and other related

existence of two major elements within a narrative: the 'story' and the 'discourse'.¹⁶⁰ He uses the term 'narrative discourse' as an overarching expression, through which the content ('a story' or 'chain of events' or 'actions and happenings') is communicated. In his analysis, the content of the narrative (story) includes the argumentative discourse (i.e., dialogues and monologues).¹⁶¹ Chatman states that "dialogue, of course, is the preeminent enactment" (p. 32). Later on, scholars such as Culpepper (1983), Moore (1989), Powell (1990), Tolmie (1999), and Resseguie (2005) [also] employed the same basic assumptions of Chatman in their interpretations of the NT texts.¹⁶² In the words of Resseguie (2005: 18-19; cf. Moore, 1989: 4-55), "narrative criticism focuses on biblical literature works as *literature*. The 'what' of a text (its content) and the 'how' of a text (its rhetoric and structure) are analysed as a complete tapestry, an organic whole For the content and form are generally regarded as an indissoluble whole".¹⁶³ In our analysis, we will look

aspects of the text. Baldick says that, "a narrative will consist of a set of events (the story) recounted in a particular order (the plot) or discourse, in which the events are selected and arranged in a particular order (the plot)" (cf. Moore, 1989: 14-40). According to Brooks (1984: 61), "narratives portray the motors of desire that drive and consume plots, and they also lay bare the nature of narration as a form of human desire".

¹⁶⁰ For Chatman, "the story is the *what* in a narrative that is depicted, discourse the *how*". For him (1978: 1) "narration is past; but dialogues and monologues make the narratives present. Funk (1988: 2) describes it further and distinguishes among three component parts: narrative as discourse, narrative as story, and narrative as narrator. Funk, narrative as discourse is the tale itself, narrative as story is what is told, and narrative as narrator is the teller. Funk (1988: 2; cf. Chatman, 1978) says, "narrative refers to the linguistic medium, to the words and sentences or written in telling a story. It is becoming widely accepted to employ the term *discourse* to denote this sense of the term narrative". Funk (1988: 2; cf. Chatman, 1978) says further, "Narrative may also be taken to refer to a set of events, real or fictive, that are the content of the discourse. Narrative in this sense refers to what is told, to the events and actors portrayed in the discourse, rather than to the words or statements of the expression . . . narrative in this sense refers to the series of events to which the narrative refers is now commonly termed *story*". Funk (1988: 3; cf. Powell, 1990: 25-27) also says, ". . . the term narrative may also be understood to refer to the act of narrating, to the telling of an event. The analogy in drama would be the *performance*". He further says, ". . . the discourse is itself an event, and the events are not the events to which the discourse refers, nor the texts of stories, but the telling as act. In this sense, narrative is a verb: to narrate". Almost in a similar way Cobley (2001: 4; cf. Sternberg, 1985: 282) identifies three fundamental items (i.e., 'story', 'plot' and 'narrative') which, while they sometimes blend in a most pleasing way, are nevertheless separate. Cobley says, "'story' consists of all the events which are to be depicted. 'Plot' is the chain of causation that dictates that these events are somehow linked and that they are therefore to be depicted in relation to each other. 'Narrative' is the showing or the telling of these events and the mode selected for that to take place". In the work of Funk and Cobley, we can identify the way they elaborate the viewpoints of Chatman. In his book entitled *Story of God*, Tovey reflects after careful consideration of Stanzel's theory of *narrative mediacy* (cf. Tovey, 1999: 1; Tovey, 2007: 12-19; see Stanzel, 1984; Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 94). For more details about narrative theory, see Kermode, 1979.

¹⁶¹ Van Aarde (2009: 382; cf. Anderegg, 1977) rightly distinguishes between 'narrative discourses' and 'argumentative discourses'. For him, in John, while narrative discourse is the macro-text, argumentative discourse appears as the micro-text. In our treatment of the discourse materials (i.e., dialogues and monologues) in John, we need to be informed that the dialogues/monologues, as micro-elements, are introduced within the framework of 'narrative discourses' (i.e., the macro-element of the gospel).

¹⁶² Culpepper (1983: 7) considers dialogue [along with action] as one of the elements within the story that is used to define the characters. For Culpepper (1983: 7; cf. Chatman, 1978; Powell, 1990; Tolmie, 1999), characters [along with events, and their settings] are part of the story.

¹⁶³ Green and Pasquarello (2003: 31; cf. Prince, 1987: 58-60; Van Aarde, 2009: 383) go to another level in their analysis of narrative when they say that, "Narratives classically follow predictable cycles: possibility (or probability) of an event, actuality (or actualization), which leads to results (or dénouement); and these aspects of the narrative process are the basic aim around which the narrative is centered".

development of the dialogue (i.e., one of the important elements in the Johannine story) in relation to the narrative dynamics (i.e., the communicative strategy) of the BS.¹⁶⁴ Meanwhile, we will also analyse the dramatic development of the BS through the dynamic combination of the dialogue and the narrative (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Brant, 2004).¹⁶⁵

In this study, we will utilise a “description and classification” method¹⁶⁶ to understand the wholistic nature and the types of dialogues in the BS.¹⁶⁷ The purpose of this process is to categorise the dialogue of the BS on the basis of their thematic, literary, and performative functions. An “analytic and synthetic” method,¹⁶⁸ which analyses the varied layers of dialogues and synthesises the findings for evaluation, will be integrated with the “description and classification” method in order to have a broader perspective of the dialogue. We do not pretend to develop the theology of the BS in detail, but only to sketch the theology of the dialogue based on their literary function (cf. Von Wahlde, 1984: 575-84; Martyn, 1968).¹⁶⁹ Hence, we may synthesize the broader theological concerns pertinent to the dialogue in the concluding chapter.¹⁷⁰ In our analysis of theology, we may concentrate on the point that Johannine characters get involved in dialogue(s) from divergent (or conflicting) theological standpoints (cf. Court, 1997:

¹⁶⁴ Genette (1972/1980) emphasizes the syntax of the narratives, rather than performing an interpretation of them. He takes up narratorial concepts like ‘order’, ‘frequency’, ‘duration’, ‘voice’, and ‘mood’ and discusses them in detail. Prince (1982), on the other hand, describes in detail ‘the narrating’, ‘the narratee’, ‘the narration’, ‘the presentation of the narrated’, ‘narrated events’, ‘narrative grammar’, ‘reading narrative’ and ‘narrativity’. Chatman (1978: 9) begins his book by stating that “The French—with their new-found etymological enthusiasm—have coined the word *narratologie*, the study of narrative structure”. Tolmie (1999: 1; cf. Powell, 1990: 19-21; Moore, 1989: 3-13) says, “‘Narratology’—or ‘narrative criticism’ as it is often called—can be defined as a systematic study of the typical features of narrative texts. Narratology is based on the assumption that certain characteristics (universal) are found in *all* narrative texts—from antiquity until modern times”. He says further that, “These characteristics are then integrated and presented in terms of narratorial frameworks that can be used for the analysis of individual narrative texts”. The role of self in the narrative framework is discussed by Anthony Paul Kerby. Kerby (1991: 1) discusses “the relation between language and persons”. Scholes and Kellogg (1966) discuss in detail the following aspects: *first*, the narrative tradition; *second*, the oral heritage of written tradition; *third*, the classical heritage of modern narrative; *fourth*, meaning of narrative; *fifth*, character in narrative; *sixth*, plot in narrative; and *seventh*, point of view in narrative. Cf. Bal, 2004; Nair, 2002.

¹⁶⁵ Also refer to Bowles, 2010: 7-91; Elam, 1980: 135-207; Martyn, 1968.

¹⁶⁶ Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (sixth edition, 2000: 339) defines ‘description’ as “a piece of writing or speech that says what sb/sth is like” and “the act of writing or saying in words what sb/sth is like”. At the same time, ‘classification’ is defined as “a group, class, division into which sb or sth is put” (sixth edition, 2000: 214). In our use of these terms we understand that the dialogues of the BS will be described in the *micro*-, *meso*-, and *macro*-levels and will be classified on the basis of their content, form, and function.

¹⁶⁷ We will look at both the explicit and the implicit dialogues at the *micro*-level.

¹⁶⁸ Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (sixth edition, 2000: 39) defines ‘analytic’ as “using a logical method of thinking about sth in order to understand it, especially by looking at all the parts separately” and “using scientific analysis in order to find out about sth”. At the same time, ‘synthetic’ is defined as ‘producing a substance’ or ‘made by combining separate ideas, beliefs, styles, and others’ (sixth edition, 2000: 1320). In our use of these terms we understand that the dialogues of the BS will be analysed in the *micro*- and *meso*-levels and will be synthesised in the *macro*-level.

¹⁶⁹ Some of the central theological aspects related to the literary genre dialogue in John will be sketched in the concluding chapter.

¹⁷⁰ Also, we will take up theological concerns in the *micro*- and *meso*-analyses of the dissertation.

20-42; Schneiders, 1999/2003). The concern that Jesus as a dialoguer ‘from above’ versus the as dialoguers ‘from below’ will be given more prominence in order to reemphasize the argumentative and dualistic character of the BS (cf. Motyer, 2006: 194-209).¹⁷¹ Moreover, at the end of the study, we will briefly discuss the role and theological value of dialogue in the Johannine community context (cf. Brown, 1979; Rensberger, 1988).¹⁷²

4. The Use of ‘Dialogue’ as a Literary Genre

Dialogue, as a literary genre,¹⁷³ was widely in use even before and during the composition of the Gospel of John. As our study follows the synchronic methods, the details in this section are intended not to state that John had influences from his predecessors or contemporaries but rather to make the reader aware of the extensive use of a literary genre that was used by the evangelist. In the following discussion, *first*, we will briefly look into how dialogue was used in some ancient religious and philosophical traditions, in the OT, and in the synoptics, and *second*, we will define the term ‘dialogue’ for the present study.

4.1. Use of Dialogue in Other Traditions

In this section, we will briefly analyse some of the prominent religious and philosophical traditions in the OT and the synoptic traditions in order to examine their use of dialogue as a literary genre.

4.1.1. Ancient Religious Traditions

The religious traditions of both the ANE and the Greco-Roman contexts are rich in dialogue as a literary genre. In the east, dialogue dates back to the Sumero-Babylonian dialogues and disputations (preserved in copies from the early second millennium BCE).¹⁷⁴ In the Akkadian Gilgamesh Epic, conversations develop within the larger dialogue framework of Gilgamesh and Ishtar (see Tablets VI-VII and X-XI).¹⁷⁵ Denning-Bolle (1992: 100-3) points out the existence of several literary devices such as rhetorical questions (Tablet X, vi. 26 onward) and dramatic

¹⁷¹ In the study, we will attempt to address how dialogues help to develop the aspect of ‘dualism’ in the gospel.

¹⁷² The aspects of ‘community life’ and ‘theology’ outlined by Ihenacho (2001) and the aspects of ‘community Christology’ in Ringe (1999) will be consulted along with other sources.

¹⁷³ See the definition and other details about ‘genre’ and ‘genre criticism’ in the methodology section.

¹⁷⁴ Jacobson (1987: 5948; cf. Cooper, 1992: 231-4) says that, “Basic to all religion, and also to ancient Mesopotamian religion, is . . . a unique experience of confrontation with power not of this world”. It was also used in the Old Testament dialogues and the Indian epic *Mahabharata*. The discourse of Krishna and his friend and devotee Arjuna of the greatest philosophical and religious dialogues known to men—is described in *the Bhagavad-Gita* (Pratt 1972/1986: xiii).

¹⁷⁵ Dalley (1989: 39) states that, “The *Epic of Gilgamesh* is the longest and greatest literary composition in cuneiform Akkadian. It narrates a heroic quest for fame and immortality, pursued by a man who has an extraordinary capacity for friendship, for endurance and adventure, for joy and sorrow, a man of strength and weakness who finds his unique opportunity through a moment’s carelessness”. Cf. Denning-Bolle, 1992: 88-103; Dalley, 1989: 50-153; 1997; Tigay, 1982; George, 2003: Vol. 1 and 2.

qualities within this epic.¹⁷⁶ Similarly, the living together of the divine pantheon under the supreme triad, Enlil,¹⁷⁷ Enki,¹⁷⁸ and An,¹⁷⁹ and the other gods surrounding them (cf. Kramer, 1961: 30-68; Pettinato, 2005: 5964), makes the Mesopotamian creation myths confrontational and dialogic.¹⁸⁰ The creation myth of the *Enuma Elish*¹⁸¹ develops as a series of verbal disputations among those figures making up the Babylonian divine pantheon.¹⁸² The dispute is primarily between the younger-generation gods and the primordial gods.¹⁸³ The dialogue is one of the important means through which the confrontation is reported in this document. The vast array of Egyptian scriptures¹⁸⁴ makes both explicit and implicit references to the divine-and-human dialogues.¹⁸⁵ Redford (1987: 2719-21) makes mention of a very specific group of texts in the genre of the

¹⁷⁶ Other Akkadian texts entitled "Tamarisk and the Palm", "The Fable of the Willow", "Nisaba and Wheat", "The Ox and the Horse", and the "Fable of the Fox" are set within the context of oral disputations between various animals and objects. All these are arranged in a triadic format: *first*, a mythological scene; *second*, the debate proper; and *third*, a judgment scene. Cf. Van Dijk, 1953: 39-40. There were dialogues between deities, human beings and their gods, and instructors and receivers. Denning-Bolle (1992: 85) makes reference to the existence of contest literature in the Sumerian tradition and also says that, "The concept of 'dialogue' surely existed in Mesopotamia". For more detailed description about the dialogues, refer to Kramer, 1961; Maier, 1997; George, 2003: Vol. 1 and 2; Tigay, 1982.

¹⁷⁷ The god Enlil is considered the undisputed head of the Sumerian pantheon. See Lulco, 1992: 507; Pettinato, 2005: 5964. Lulco (1992: 507) says, "Enlil was de facto the most important deity, representing activity and direct engagement with the human world".

¹⁷⁸ The god Enki is considered as the god of wisdom par excellence. See Cooper, 1992: 231-4.

¹⁷⁹ An is the father of both Enlil and Enki, who plays a prominent role in the Sumerian religious outlook.

¹⁸⁰ Kramer (1961: 30-68) records a few other disputation mythologies related to the creation of the universe, the closest extant Sumerian parallel to the Cain-Abel story of the Book of Genesis. The divine system was dialogical as it involved several voices and divine-human interaction was vital. Thus the divine-human interaction was at the centre of Mesopotamian day-to-day life. While the human beings were created and considered by the pantheon to carry on with the work of putting the world in order, gods were considered by humans as models for the task to be completed. Cf. Kramer, 1961: 30-68; Pettinato, 2005: 5964.

¹⁸¹ Pettinato (2005: 5964; see the English translation of the poem at Heidel, 1942/1951: 18-60; Schepel, 2002) considers it as "the greatest religious poem of Babylonian literature". Frymer-Kensky (1987: 2809; cf. Heidel, 1942/1951: 1) states that, "Enuma Elish, the name given to the myth that contains the theological thoughts of Babylon in the first millennium".

¹⁸² Verbal disputations and interactions develop among Apsu, Mummu, and Tiamat (see Tablet I: 30-50; cf. Heidel, 1942/1951: 18-60), among Tiamat and the young gods (cf. Tablet I: 111-27), between Tiamat and Kingu (see Tablet I: 151-61), among Ea, Anshar, and Marduk (cf. Tablet II: 10-129) and among Marduk, Tiamat and other gods (see Tablet III). Cf. Frymer-Kensky, 1987: 2809-10; Heidel, 1942/1951: 3-10, 18-60; Denning-Bolle, 1992: 104-5.

¹⁸³ Finally, as Pettinato (2005: 5964) reports, "The forces of the principal gods were led by Tiamat herself, and on Enki's advice, the task of commanding the young gods' army was given to Marduk". "After various ups and downs", says Pettinato (2005: 5964), "Marduk was victorious over Tiamat, thus doing away with the power of the primordial gods; only then did the gods unanimously agree to make Marduk their leader".

¹⁸⁴ Egyptian religious scriptures appear in a variety of literary genre: first, *Mortuary Literature* (*The Pyramid Texts, The Coffin Texts, Book of Going Forth by Day, Underworld Literature, Communication between Living and Dead*); second, *Mythology* (*Cosmogonies, Myths of Kingship and Fertility, Myths about the Destruction of Humankind, Mythological Stories*); third, *Speculative Literature* (*Dialogues and Harpers' Songs, Discourses*); fourth, *Magical Texts*; fifth, *Wisdom Literature*; sixth, *Temple Libraries* (*Ritual Texts, Beautifications, Hymns, Mythological Compendiums, Chronicles and Narratives, King-lists and Offering-lists, Annals of the Gods, Directories and Prescriptions, Omen Texts and Related Genres, Oracle Texts, Medical Texts, Administrative Texts*); and seventh, *Temple Inscriptions*. The majority of these texts show both explicit and implicit references to divine-human interactions. For more details refer to Pinch, 2002.

¹⁸⁵ Lesko (1987: 2703) reports that, "The temple texts furnish descriptions of the deities, their mythic significance, daily rites, and festivals, and to some extent the interaction between the human and divine worlds". By way of their recitations and divine utterances, the worshippers expect the voice and interaction of the deities. Cf. Redford, 1987: 2718-9; Watterson, 1984: 23-203; Quirke, 1992; Murray, 1949.

dialogue that explains humankind's prospects beyond the tomb.¹⁸⁶ In several of the Pyramid conflicts, disputations, lamentations and dramatic scenes are recorded and in them deities such as Osiris, Isis, Horus, Seth, and Nephthys are involved (see *Pyr.* 418a, 594a, 679d; *Pyr.* 1040a-c 1436a-e; see Sethe, *Pyr. Komm.* I: 337).¹⁸⁷ The dialogues among Anubis, his wife, and Bata in *The Story of the Two Brothers* a very important dramatic Egyptian document.¹⁸⁸

The Ugaritic texts¹⁸⁹ of the Canaanite tradition¹⁹⁰ contain various episodes of the Baal cycle (Coogan, 1987: 1391).¹⁹¹ In Baal's battle with the sea, implicit and multi-level war dialogues develop, especially among El,¹⁹² Baal,¹⁹³ and Yam (see Gibson, 1977: 2-8; Wyatt, 1998: 39-40). Another array of dialogues develops among El, Baal, Athirat, Anat,¹⁹⁵ and Kothar before the construction of a palace for Baal.¹⁹⁶ Coogan (1987: 1393) reports an enigmatic dispute between Baal and Kothar about whether Baal's house is to have a window or not.¹⁹⁷ Near the end

¹⁸⁶ Redford (1987: 2721) reports: "In one example, Osiris, typifying the soul on the point of entering the afterlife, and Atum is obliged to offer him the assurance of eternal survival and union with the creator himself".

¹⁸⁷ Cf. Griffiths, 1960: 2-27, 46-84; Mercer, 1942: 68-78; Manniche, 1987: 52-3; Velde, 1967: 27-98.

¹⁸⁸ Manniche (1987: 62, also see 63-5; cf. Hollis, 1990: 3-176) says, "The manuscript, kept in the British Museum, was written down in the reign of Sethos II (c. 1210 BCE). The episode has an obvious parallel in the biblical tale of Joseph and the wife of Potiphar". Hollis (1990: vii-viii) says that, "The Egyptians were masters at creating plots with enough suspense and pathos to captivate their audiences and move their stories along at good pace".

¹⁸⁹ Day (1992: 545; cf. Yon, 1992: 695-706) mentions that the Ugaritic mythological texts from Ras Shamra on the Syrian coast shed the most light on the Canaanite religion. Ugaritic Texts include (cf. Pardee and Bordreuil, 1992: 706-21; Yon, 1992: 695-706): first, *Religious Texts: Mythological Texts (Baal-Anat Cycle, Story of Kirta, Story of Aqhat, Minor Texts and Fragments)* and *Ritual Texts*; second, *Epistolary Texts: Formulae, Royal Letters, No Letters*; and third, *Administrative Texts: Lists, Official Acts and Commercial Documents*. According to Coogan (1987: 1391), "The texts in this category (i.e., Mythological Texts) make no reference to human persons or actual events. The protagonists are divine and there is no historical time frame". Though many of these texts are poetical in style, the dialogue is part and parcel of them.

¹⁹⁰ Coogan (1987: 1390; cf. Cooper, 1987: 1380-90) says that, "The term Canaanite designates the culture of the region often known as the Levant, roughly comprising the modern entities of Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, and Palestine, beginning with the earliest extensive written records in the third millennium BCE and ending with the beginning of the Hellenistic period in the fourth century BCE".

¹⁹¹ Walls (2005: 724) states that, "The myth of Baal's rise to sovereignty over the gods is narrated in the six texts of the Ugaritic Baal Cycle, which encompasses three main sections". The main plot of the three episodes is: Baal's battle with the sea; the construction and dedication of Baal's palace; and Baal's encounter with death. See Day, 1992: 545; Walls, 2005: 724; Coogan, 1987: 1391.

¹⁹² El was the supreme Canaanite deity and his consort was goddess Athirat. Cf. Day, 1992: 831-37. Walls (2005: 724) explains the name El as follows: "Originally an appellative that simply means 'god' in common Semitic languages, the proper name of the greybeard patriarch of the Syro-Palestinian, or 'Canaanite', pantheon El's most common Ugaritic epithet is 'bull', a symbol of his power and strength".

¹⁹³ Day (1992: 545; see more details at Cassuto, 1951/1971) reports about Baal that, ". . . Canaanite storm and thunder god. The name, which means, 'lord', is an epithet of the god Hadad (lit. 'thunderer'). Well-known from the Ugaritic texts, now extremely well-attested in the Ugaritic texts, in addition to being mentioned in other ancient texts".

¹⁹⁴ In the story, as Pardee and Bordreuil (1992: 707; see the text at Gibson, 1977: 37-45; Wyatt, 1998: 39-69) report, "he [Baal] defeats his enemy Yam ['Sea'], he requests and receives a palace like the other gods but is shortly thereafter himself defeated by Mot ['Death'], but is in the end resurrected and serves again to bring rain and plenty upon the earth".

¹⁹⁵ Pardee and Bordreuil (1992: 706; cf. Cassuto, 1951/1971) mention about Anat as follows: "Baal's wife, goddess of perpetual 'young-girl', and goddess of both love and war".

¹⁹⁶ Cf. Walls, 2005: 724; see the text at Coogan, 1987: 86-115, 1393; Gibson, 1977: 46-67; Wyatt, 1998: 70-114.

¹⁹⁷ Coogan (1987: 1393; cf. Gibson, 1977: 8-14) says that, "Kothar recommends that a window be included despite repeated urgings, however, Baal refuses".

tablet, there are various dramatic episodes and implicit dialogues develop largely between Baal and Death (Mot).¹⁹⁸ The Canaanite cycles with human protagonists, like Aqhat¹⁹⁹ and Kirta,²⁰⁰ also have dialogues in them.²⁰¹ Human-divine interaction also lies at the root of Greek religious traditions. According to the *Iliad*, Zeus, Apollo, and Athena keep in regular contact with the affairs of the people (cf. Vernant, 1987: 3663). The pantheon is interactive with the people and their affairs. In response, the Greeks consider the *theoi* at the top of their hierarchical order (cf. Vernant, 1987: 3667).²⁰² The times of rituals, prayers, and sacrifices were considered as occasions of divine-human interactions and dialogues (cf. Bremmer, 2005: 3681-5).²⁰³ In Roman religion,²⁰⁴ Jupiter (Iuppiter)²⁰⁵ stood at the center of the pantheon (cf. Gladigow, 1992: 811). He was considered as the god of heaven, and at the same time one who intervened in the daily affairs of the city-state (cf. Gladigow, 1992: 811; Schilling and Guittard, 1987/2005: 5037). Other subordinate gods such as

¹⁹⁸ In the story, Death [Mot] challenges Baal's kingship (cf. Walls, 2005: 724; Gibson, 1977: 68-81; Wyatt, 1998: 115-46). Baal directs and sends his messengers [Gapn and Ugar] to Mot, as a sequence Gapn and Ugar warn/instruct Mot, two messengers report Baal's death to El, and Anat's dialogue with El after Baal's death (cf. Coogan, 1987: 1394; Gibson, 1977: 14-9).

¹⁹⁹ As Coogan (1987: 3961; see the text at Coogan, 1978: 32-47; Gibson, 1977: 103-22; Wyatt, 1998: 246-312) reports, "This title is an ancient one, appearing as a cataloging cycle at the beginning of the third major tablet of the cycle that is preserved".

²⁰⁰ Coogan (1987: 1398-99; see the text at Coogan, 1978: 58-74) says, "This epic, consisting of three tablets, is incomplete: at least one additional tablet is missing, for the third ends abruptly in mid-sentence . . . Its eponymous hero, Kirta (a name vocalized as Keret), was, like Daniel, a king".

²⁰¹ These are narratives containing human and divine elements. In *Aqhat*, Daniel's request to El for a son and El's favourable response to him are dialogically intertwined. Similarly, in *Kirta*, El appears to Kirta in a dream and his vows to Asherah have implicit dialogical aspects (cf. Pardee and Bordreuil, 1992: 707). Other minor mythological texts, like *The Birth of Shamar and Shalim*, *The Marriage of Nikkal*, *El's Banquest*, and others, also show glimpses of dialogues. Cf. Coogan, 1987: 1396; Pardee and Bordreuil, 1992: 708. In his book, titled *Ritual and Cult at Ugarat*, Dennis Pardee (2002; for more details about the Ugaritic texts refer to Wyatt, 1998) discusses the texts in Ugaritic language that deal with the everyday contacts between the Ugaritians and their deities.

²⁰² In order to learn more about the Greek gods (i.e., Zeus, Hera, Athena, Leto, Apollo, Artemis, Hekate, Ares, Hermes, Aphrodite, Eros, Hephaistos, Hestia, Poseidon, Amphitrite, Dionysos, Demeter, Kore, Hades, and all the lesser gods) and their various functions, refer to Fox, 1964. For more details about Dionysos and indescribable life, refer to Kerényi, 1976.

²⁰³ Greek life was decidedly directed at this life, not that of the hereafter or hardly of an afterlife. This made the divine-human elements converse in the present life (cf. Bremmer, 2005: 3678). Graf (2010: 77) says, "Although there were many means of interaction between humans and their gods, informal as well as formal ones, the privileged occasion for interaction was the festival with its prayers and sacrifices". The concept of human-divine encounter in classical Greek art can be considered as a model of dialogue (cf. Klöckner, 2010: 106-25). When discussing about the Homeric concepts Guthrie (1950: 118; cf. Rose, 1930: 13-15) says, "The highest class of aristocrats were the gods, their relation to the whole of mankind is much the same as that of the king or chieftain (*basileus*) to the lower orders, and the analogy between the two—*basileus* and gods—is helpful in considering questions of mutual relationships and obligations, and of morality". Klöckner (2010: 124-25) says, "the worshipper not only venerated images of gods and heroes, but met them *in personam*".

²⁰⁴ Schilling and Rüpke (1987/2005: 7893) opine that, "'Roman religion' is an analytical concept that is used to describe religious phenomena in the ancient city of Rome and to relate the growing variety of cults to the political and social structure of the city".

²⁰⁵ Schilling and Guittard (1987/2005: 5037) state that, "The name *Iuppiter* is made up of two elements: the first, *Iou-*, stems from the Indo-European *dyeu*, the root of *dies*, or 'day'; while in the second element we find the Latin word *pater*, meaning 'father'. *Iuppiter* therefore identifies the 'god of heavenly light'". Schilling and Guittard (1987/2005: 5037; cf. Schilling and Rüpke, 1987/2005: 7893) further say that, "Jupiter served as the keystone in the ancient triad of gods, along with Mars and Quirinus; later, in the Capitoline triad, his companions became Juno and Minerva".

Quirinus, Juno (Iuno), and Mars are also considered as interactive gods in the Roman religious traditions (cf. Schilling and Rüpke, 1987/2005: 7893).²⁰⁶

The brief survey above of the Sumero-Babylonian, Egyptian, Canaanite, Greek, and Roman religious traditions serves to confirm that dialogue and interactions among the deities themselves and between the pantheon and the human world were part and parcel of the affairs of the world. This pattern of dialogue helps us to understand the dialogues of John between Jesus and the Father, Jesus as one 'from above' and the Jews 'from below', and Jesus as one who is the 'Word that became flesh' and the rest of the humanity.

4.1.2. Ancient Philosophical Traditions

As a literary genre, Greek dialogue has its origins in *mimesis*, or the art of 'imitating' real conversations (see Majercik, 1992: 185).²⁰⁷ Literary historians commonly suppose that Plato (c. 427 BCE – c. 337 BCE)²⁰⁸ introduced the systematic use of dialogue as an independent literary form by way of dialectical method.²⁰⁹ The highlight of the majority of Plato's dialogues is the argumentation of Socrates. A reader finds it difficult to distinguish between the voices of Socrates, the protagonist, and Plato, the author, in the Platonic dialogues.²¹⁰ In the dialogues, Socrates

²⁰⁶ Minerva took a different root from what was probably a Sabine goddess who early on was personified iconographically as a city goddess, she became the patroness of artisans. Other gods like Vesta and Janus functioned as city-gods. See Schilling and Guittard, 1987/2005: 811-12. Schilling and Rüpke (1987/2005: 7893) state that, "... the idea of obligation lies at the very root of the Romans' attitude toward the gods. ... It was the Roman inner conviction that without the accord of the gods they could not succeed in their endeavours". Gladigow (1981: 811) is of the view that, "The deities 'revealed' themselves not in time-transcending ontology but through their presence in particular, concrete situations. The institutionalized contact Romans had with their gods took corresponding form".
²⁰⁷ Majercik (1992: 185) says, "Such dialogues or conversations can be found in Greek drama, history, and oratory".
²⁰⁸ The traditional corpus includes 13 *Epistles*, most of them now recognized as spurious. There are some thirty dialogues of Plato, all but a few of them undoubtedly genuine, and a group of letters. This is probably the whole of his work. In the dialogues he uses the dialectic method—the investigation of concepts by question and answer—which had been the characteristic approach of Socrates. Like Socrates, Plato's emphasis is ethical rather than scientific. Knowledge is not separable from virtue, and the good is also the true. The dialogues like the *Apology*, *Crito*, and *Phaedo*, which form a trilogy about the imprisonment and death of Socrates, present an impressive and courageous defense of the philosophical life. The occasion of the *Symposium* is a festive banquet, and the discussion, alternating between the earthly and the sublime, is concerned with the nature of love. *The Republic*, a product of Plato's most comprehensive vision, deals with humanity both as a social creature and as a participant in eternity. He was to be concerned with the realities of statesmanship throughout his life, in *The Republic* as well as in the unfinished dialogue of his old age, *Laws*. Also see Cornford, 1958; Kaplan, 1950.

²⁰⁹ According to Hall (1967: 52), "The term *dialectic* originates in the Greek expression for the art of conversation. Philosophers like Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, and the Stoics used it both in their oral deliveries and writings (see Hall 1967: 52-4; Thesleff, 2000: 53-66; Sinaiko, 1965). Cf. Schaeffer, 1998: 387-95; Majercik, 1992: 185; Dennin, 1992: 70-6. McKeon (1990: 28) opines that, "The method of dialectic is dialogue in the sense that two or more speakers or two or more positions are brought into relations in which it becomes apparent that each position is incomplete and inconclusive unless assimilated to a higher truth".

²¹⁰ For certain details about "Socrates and the character of Platonic dialogue", refer Waugh, 2000: 39-52; cf. Hall 1967; Mittelstrass, 1988: 126-42; Penner, 1992: 121-69; Santas, 1979: 57-180. In their book Brickhouse and Nussbaum (1994: 3-212) argue in detail about the Socratic method, epistemology, psychology, ethics, politics, and religion.

*question-and-answer method*²¹¹ and his definitions and arguments direct the interlocutors toward virtue and knowledge (see Santas, 1979: 57-286; Brickhouse and Smith, 1994).²¹² Plato brought dialogue to its highest perfection, especially in the cycle directly inspired by the death of Socrates.²¹³ All his philosophical writings, except the *Apology*,²¹⁴ use this form.²¹⁵ Following Plato, dialogue became one of the major literary genres in antiquity.²¹⁶ While maintaining the question-and-answer and dialectic forms for the dialogues, he added three important elements within Socratic argumentation; *elenchus*,²¹⁷ *epagoge*,²¹⁸ and *definition*.²¹⁹ Though Plato's early dialogues used the method of intellectual 'midwifery' by way of the technique of dialectic or skilled questioning (cf. Penner, 1992: 121-69), later on they moved toward a more dogmatic presentation of various ideas (cf. Majercik, 1992: 185-6).²²⁰

²¹¹ Socratic question-and-answer method was primarily developed in a dialectical way.

²¹² Santas (1979: 57-178) argues this elaborately by taking samples from Socratic questions and assumptions, and his definitions and arguments. Santas (1979: 179) further states that, "he [Socrates] shows not only a remarkable skill in constructing arguments, but also a remarkable awareness of arguments as instruments for testing the truth of some of the dominant ideas of his time".

²¹³ White (1988: 247) observes the way Hans-Georg Gadamer approaches Plato: "The most conspicuous feature of his [Gadamer's] approach is his attempt to explain Plato's use of the dialogue by insisting that it was more than merely clothing for his philosophy—it had an organic connection with it. He holds that we should take what is said in a dialogue in the context of the situation in which it is presented, especially the interlocutors' state of mind, and should regard each dialogue itself as framed by a context in which Plato is trying to teach something to us, the readers".

²¹⁴ Even the *Apology* has some dialogue within it.

²¹⁵ Soon after Plato, Xenophon wrote his own *Symposium*, Aristotle is said to have written several philosophical dialogues in Plato's style, and later most of the Hellenistic schools had their own dialogue. Cicero wrote some very important works in this genre, such as *On the Orator* (*de Oratore*), *On the Republic* (*de re Publica*), and the lost *Hortensius*. In the second century CE, Lucian of Samosata achieved a brilliant success with his ironic dialogues *Of the Gods*, *Of the Dead*, *Of Love* and *Of the Courtesans*. In some of them he attacks superstition and philosophical error with the sharpness of his wit. The dialogue was frequently used by early Christian writers, such as Justin, Origen and Augustine.

²¹⁶ See the chronology of the dialogues established by Campbell and Ritter in the late 19th century. Khan (2005: 583; cf. Brandwood, 1990) records that:

Group I: *Apology*, *Charmides*, *Crito*, *Cratylus*, *Euthydemus*, *Euthyphro*, *Gorgias*, [*Hippias Major*], *Hippias Minor*, *Ion*, *Laches*, *Lysis*, *Menexenus*, *Meno*, *Phaedo*, *Protagoras*, *Symposium*;

Group II: *Republic*, *Phaedrus*, *Parmenides*, *Theaetetus*;

Group III: *Sophist*-*Statesman*, *Philebus*, *Timaeus*-*Critias*, *Laws*.

Group III was identified first (as the "late group") on the basis of several independent studies. These six dialogues are marked by very strong stylistic peculiarities typical of the *Laws*, which we know to have been written towards the end of Plato's life. Group II includes dialogues stylistically akin to the *Republic*, which show relatively few distinctive features of Plato's late style. Group I is the default class, the remaining 16 or 17 dialogues, from the *Apology* to the *Symposium* and *Phaedo*, in which Plato's brilliant conversational style bears none of the distinctive marks of the late period.

²¹⁷ The Socratic *elenchus* consisted of the continual interrogation of a person in order to help him realize that he knows nothing whereas formerly he had (falsely) supposed he did, indeed, know something. See Denning-Bolle, 1992: 72.

²¹⁸ *Epagoge* (induction) is the approach to the universal from a particular (cf. Denning-Bolle, 1992: 72).

²¹⁹ Socrates poses a problem, usually of an ethical nature. He demands to know the nature of something by means of such questions (see Denning-Bolle, 1992: 72-5; Sinaiko, 1965; Stokes, 1986).

²²⁰ Majercik (1992: 186-87) says that, "In the *Laws*, Plato's last dialogue, only the form of the dialogue remains. Socrates has disappeared as have the dramatic elements, and the discussion among the various 'characters' has become didactic and methodical". Nightingale (1995: 6) says that, "It is only in Plato that we find the imprint of comedy and tragedy". Schaeffer (1988: 389; cf. Denning-Bolle, 1992: 70-1) says further that, "Plato uses the dialogue to portray

After Plato, Xenophon (c. 430 BCE- c. 350 BCE) used dialogue as a major literary genre. Xenophon wrote six works in the genre of Socratic discourses, such as *Apology of Socrates*, *Jury*, *Symposium*,²²¹ *Oeconomicus*,²²² *The Hiero*,²²³ *Memorabilia*, and *Cyropaedia*.²²⁴ Kahn (20) opines that, "Writing after Plato, Xenophon composed the *Memorabilia* as a large work putting together many mini-dialogues". But, mostly the conversations do not have the same length as even a short Platonic dialogue (see Robinson, 1967: 855).²²⁵ In his *Symposium* (Banquet) and *Oeconomicus* (i.e., Household management) Socrates takes part in such discussions (see Robinson, 1967: 855).²²⁶ Xenophon's writings in dialogue form later were esteemed by moral thinkers like Machiavelli, Montaigne, and Rousseau (see O'Connor, 811). After Plato and Xenophon, Aristotle (384 BCE-322 BCE) appears as the most significant figure who used dialogue as a literary genre. Aristotle's early writings,²²⁷ under the influence of the Academy (367-347 BCE), conform both in content and form (the dialogue) to Platonic writings.²²⁸ He justifies Socratic dialogues or 'conversations with Socrates' (*Sōc*

this dialectical activity and to allow the reader to share it vicariously. The effect of the dialogue cannot be seen from its content. It is not simply an expository vehicle".

²²¹ They appear to be responses to Plato's works of the same titles. See O'Connor, 1998: 812. Kahn (1998: 20) "In form, Xenophon's *Symposium* is loosely modeled after Plato's work of that name, although the content is altogether different". In order to see more distinctions between Plato and Xenophon refer to Robinson, 1967: 3.

²²² It is in part a response to the comic attack on Socrates in Aristophanes' *Clouds*.

²²³ It is a conversation about political power between Hiero the tyrant and Simonides the poet.

²²⁴ O'Connor (1998: 811) says that, "His [Xenophon's] *Memoirs* (usually referred to by the Latin title *Memorabilia*) presents the model of the philosophical life, mainly by recounting conversations between Socrates and a wide variety of human types". The *Memorabilia* and *Cyropaedia* focus on two philosophical issues: *first*, what are the psychological roots of human virtue, and how is it to be taught? *Second*, what are the limits of and the prospects for human attainment of self-sufficiency? Cf. O'Connor, 1998: 812.

²²⁵ Robinson (1967: 855) says, "he compiled his extensive and valuable *Memorabilia* (Recollections of Socrates) a work that has given Xenophon, not himself a philosopher, considerable importance to all post-Socratic philosophy". Robinson (1967: 855) further says that, "Undeniably, Xenophon's Socrates is less lively in discussion than Plato's. He is far less impressive in defending his paradoxes. The difference reveals the gulf between Plato and his contemporary in literary skill and in philosophical understanding".

²²⁶ Robinson (1967: 855) makes the observation that, "Xenophon occasionally reproduces a Socratic *elenchos* (interrogation demonstrating an interlocutor's ignorance, and comments that Socrates used this method to stimulate moral improvement in his pupils by inducing them to acquire knowledge". Nightingale (1995: 4) states that, "It should be noted that Xenophon's Socrates bears little or no relation to either comic or tragic heroes; nor does Xenophon borrow or imitate structural, stylistic, or thematic elements of the genres of comedy and tragedy". O'Connor (1998: 812) says that, "Xenophon's Socrates influences others partly through precepts he teaches in conversation and partly simply through the force of his own example". Robinson (1967: 855) is of the view that, "Xenophon's Socrates has no 'irony', but states positive views quite unreservedly".

²²⁷ Shields (2007: 29) states that, "A reasonable estimate would be that we now possess thirty-one works by Aristotle, not including the many fragments preserved primarily in the form of quotations and paraphrases from later authors. The writings attributed to Aristotle have been classified according to three historical periods: *first*, while under the direct influence of the Academy (367-347 BCE); *second*, during his stay at Assos, Mitylene and at the court of Macedon; and *third*, at the Lyceum (335-323 BCE). See Kiernan, 1962: 7-8.

²²⁸ Randall (1960: 13-14; Jaeger, 1934: 24) says, "As a 'Platonist' Aristotle wrote a good many dialogues. We have the record of a number, and the fragments of at least eighteen. All antiquity praised these dialogues of Aristotle as a 'golden stream' of their eloquence, and judged Aristotle to be quite the equal of Plato as a writer". (1908/1925: 787) records: "Cicero extols 'the golden stream of Aristotle's discourse'; Quintilian, its 'great fertility'; and Dionysius of Halicarnassus, its 'force, clearness, and grace'. These praises must need refer to Aristotle's published writings, and, in particular, to his *Dialogues*, of which only fragments have come down to us". Men

logoi) as a literary genre.²²⁹ The most important works of Aristotle in dialogue form were *Eudemus*²³⁰ and *Protrepticus*.²³¹ Majercik (1992: 186) observes that, “Although Aristotle’s dialogues are extant only in fragmentary form, two innovations are worth noting: the use of the skeptic practice of ‘arguing both sides’ (*disputatio in utramque partem*) and the presence of Aristotle himself as one of the participants in the discussion”.²³² Aristotle’s dialogues are considered much more dramatic than the later dialogues of Plato (see Randall, 1960: 14).

Following Aristotle,²³³ dialogue was abandoned in the Academy but kept alive among the Peripatetics,²³⁴ notably in the writings of Heraclides Ponticus (4th century BCE; cf. Majercik, 1992: 186).²³⁵ Majercik (1992: 186) states that, “Heraclides was especially noted for his elaborate introductions or *proems*. He also changed the internal structure of the dialogue by placing the action in the past and then introducing a number of noted historical persons (e.g., men of state, generals, philosophers) as discussants on a wide range of issues (e.g., ethics, politics, literature, history, physics)”.²³⁶ Heraclides’ dialogues were full of moral, religious, and cosmic stories, and also revelations, including eschatological ones, and miracles and sermons by ancient wise men (cf.

265) says about Aristotle’s writings as follows: “‘Exoteric’ or ‘published’ writings, were intended for circulation outside the circle of philosophers, elegantly written and sometimes in dialogue form”.

²²⁹ Are the views expressed in the dialogues Plato’s or the characters’? This is the major concern among Platonic scholars nowadays. Waugh (2000: 39) opines that, “To see Socrates as Plato’s mouthpiece is *prima facie* to discount that Plato chose not to speak in his own voice—that there was no character named Plato in the dialogues, and almost no mention at all of Plato in the dialogues”. O’Connor (1998: 811) reports that, “After Socrates’ execution in 399 BCE, a number of his companions began to write reflections and remembrances about him, usually in the form of dialogues, and the style and approach of these ‘Socratic discourses’ defined them as a literary genre”. See Kahn, 1998: 19; cf. Nightingale, 1995: 4.

²³⁰ Or ‘On The Soul’, in which he admits Plato’s doctrine of reminiscence, the prior existence of the soul and his proofs of the immortality of the soul, as well as the existence of Idea-Forms. Jeager (1934: 39) says about *Eudemus* that “which is named after Aristotle’s Cyprian friend, is given by the motive for its composition”. Cf. Kiernan, 1962: 7. Randall (1960: 14; cf. Jeager, 1934: 30) opines that, “He [Aristotle] wrote a *Symposium*, a *Sophist*, a *Statesman*, a *Menexenus*. He wrote a *Eudemus*, modelled on the *Phaedo* and dealing with the deathlessness of the soul; the *Gryllos*, modeled on the *Gorgias* and dealing with rhetoric; a dialogue on justice, modeled on the *Republic*”. Jeager (1934: 29) states that, “*Eudemus* or *On the Soul* and *Gryllus* or *On Rhetoric* cannot have been very different from the earlier Platonic type of which the *Phaedo* and the *Gorgias* are examples. One of the fragments of the *Eudemus* still retains the Socratic technique of question and answer”.

²³¹ Jeager (1934: 54) says that, “Next to the *Eudemus* the *Protrepticus* is for us the most important work of all those written before Plato’s death, both because of the extent to which it is preserved and because of its actual significance”.

²³² Plato, in contrast, never ‘appeared’ in any of his dialogues, as it was Socrates who, in most instances, functioned as his mouthpiece (cf. Majercik, 1992: 186).

²³³ One view is that the Peripatetics had access to the dialogues of Aristotle (cf. Kerferd, 1967/2006: 202).

²³⁴ Aristotle was puzzled about how to classify a dialogue. He regarded the “conversation of Socrates” as a nameless “form of imitation” to be grouped with the mime-like and an imitation of real life with high-flown metaphysical speculations and didactic interests (see Kahn, 1998: 19; Nightingale, 1995: 4). Kerferd (1967/2006: 202–203) says that, “The original meaning of the word *peripatos* was ‘a covered walking place’. The house that Theophrastus provided for the school of Aristotle contained such a *peripatos*. This yielded a proper name for the school itself—the Peripatos—and its members came to be known as ‘those from the Peripatos’ or ‘Peripatetics’”.

²³⁵ According to Gottschalk (1998: 363), “Heraclides, a pupil of Plato, was roughly contemporaneous with Aristotle. Best known in antiquity as a writer of dialogues on moral and religious themes”.

²³⁶ Majercik (1992: 186) further says that, “By setting the action in the past, Heraclides—unlike Aristotle—never appears ‘on the scene’. Heraclides is also noted for deriving the titles of his dialogues from their content rather than from one of the interlocutors, as was the practice of Plato”.

Gottschalk, 1998: 364). Cicero admired his style and used his writings as a model for his dialogues (see Gottschalk, 1998: 364).²³⁷

Among the Latin philosophers Marcus Terentius Varro (116-29 BCE), M. Junius Brutus Cicero (106-43 BCE) stand out as the most prominent figures who employed dialogue in their writings.²³⁸ Varro's contributions in the field of dialogue include elements of autobiography as well as a kind of 'interior' dialogue in which he conversed with himself (cf. Majercik, 1992: 186; Black, 1991: 389-90). Junius Brutus' contribution to the form was the construction of laudatory and didactic discourses presented as 'dialogues' between his son and himself. The subject matter and *locus dialogi* were distinctly Roman: father and son discoursed on various civil and juridical matters in the leisurely setting of the Roman countryside (cf. Majercik, 1992: 186). But Cicero's dialogue marked more significance in the Latin philosophical context than that of Varro and Junius Brutus. In 45 BCE, Cicero wrote *Academica* in two versions on the dispute between dogmatic and academic skeptics about the criterion of truth. The works *De natura deorum*, *De divinatione*, and *De fato* (45-44 BCE) present Epicurean, Stoic, and Academic arguments and counterarguments about religion and cosmology.²³⁹ On political theory Cicero wrote two dialogues, *De re publica* and *De legibus* (see DeLacy, 1967/2006: 258).²⁴⁰ In Ciceronian dialogues, frequently the participants are young men just beginning their political careers. Conflicting views are often presented, and sometimes the clash of opinions leads to insult and denunciation. But, personal abuse by one speaker by another is avoided.²⁴¹

²³⁷ Gottschalk (1998: 364) says that, "the only reader to take his ideas seriously was the physician Asclepiades of Bithynia. Asclepiades' work was based on Epicurean conceptions, but he adopted Heraclides' corpuscularism; presumably he found it useful for explaining physiological processes".

²³⁸ Majercik (1992: 186) says that, "Among Latin writers, Varro experimented with the dialogue, as did M. Junius Brutus. Varro wrote satiric pieces (in the manner of the Cynic diatribe) as well as a collection of philosophical and historical dialogues which explored a variety of general subjects, e.g., health, the education of children, peace, and religion". Most of Varro's works exist only in fragmentary form. Hence it is difficult to assess to what extent he has made original contributions to the dialogic genre (see Majercik, 1992: 186).

²³⁹ His *On the Nature of the Gods* presents two pairs of speeches expounding, then criticizing, Epicurean and Stoic theology (see White, 1998: 357).

²⁴⁰ In *De Officiis* and *Topica*, the dialogue form is discarded. DeLacy (1967/2006: 258) says, "The literary form of Cicero's *De Officiis* and *Topica* is didactic. Cicero used to emphasize his didactic intent. Most of the philosophical works are dialogues, preceded by an introduction in defence of philosophical studies". White (1998: 356) says, "Cicero's first philosophical works are the dialogues that analyse and evaluate the political institutions and practices of contemporary Rome in the light of Stoic theory". They are *On the Orator*, *On the Republic*, and *On Laws*. DeLacy (1967: 114) says, "Minor works on philosophical themes include *Paradoxa Stoicorum*, *De Senectute*, *De Amicitia*, and the lost *Consolatio* and *How to Live*". Cicero also translated two Platonic dialogues, *Protagoras* (lost) and *Timaeus*".

²⁴¹ DeLacy (1967/2006: 258) says, "There is hardly a vestige of dramatic conflict in such dialogues as *Tusculan Disputations*, where the conversation is between a young man and his preceptor". White (1998: 356) is of the opinion that, "his [Cicero's] oratory bears the stamp of his theoretical studies, and his treatises and dialogues are essentially oratorical". Schaeffer (1988: 389) distinguishes between Platonic dialectic dialogues and undramatic and expository Cicero's dialogues. Schaeffer (1988: 389) says that, "The dialogues of Plato are the most philosophical use of the genre. To read them is to engage in the search for value that can only occur between persons. Plato uses the dialogue to portray this dialectical activity and to allow the reader to share it vicariously". He (1988: 389) adds that, "The Ciceronian dialogue is seldom rooted in a concrete situation that gives the topic immediacy. Rather, the dialogues are presented as speculative investigations of broad topics, which occur in a serene and placid setting". In the words of Majercik (1992: 186), "in the Ciceronian dialogue, argumentation becomes an end in itself,

The philosophical traditions, as in the case of the religious traditions, provide us clues for understanding the existent patterns of dialogue before John.²⁴² In John, as in the case of Platonic dialogues, it is difficult to distinguish between the voices of Jesus, the protagonist, and John, the author/narrator. As Aristotle identifies ‘conversations with Socrates’ as a literary genre, in John ‘conversations with Jesus’ can be identified as a literary category. While dialogue as a broad category appears in their writings, the philosophers employed that genre at different levels and for different purposes. Similarly, John uses dialogue at a different level and for fulfilling his own purposes. Though John employs dialogue as a significant category in his writing, his dialogue has to be treated on its own terms.

4.1.3. The Old Testament Traditions

As in the case of the ANE and the Greco-Roman literature, the writings of the OT have dialogue in them as a significant literary genre. Van Wolde²⁴³ states that the dialogues of God with Adam (Gen 3:8-24),²⁴⁴ Abraham (Gen 12:1-9; cf. Wenham, 1987: 1: 267-83),²⁴⁵ and Moses (Exo 3:1-22; cf. Pixley, 1987: 16-23; Childs, 1974: 47-89)²⁴⁶ can be considered as the proto-types of dialogues in

‘characters’ in a given dialogue arriving at a ‘probable’ truth vis-à-vis a given proposition, not seeking an ‘absolute’ truth in the Platonic sense”. Majercik (1992: 186) reports the contributions of Ciceronian dialogues as: *first*, the inclusion of prominent persons, past and present, with the author himself ‘on the scene’; *second*, the ideal of learned *otium* as exemplified in the *Tusculanae Disputationes*; *third*, the development of the prologue or *proem* as a philosophical essay in which Cicero skillfully locates himself in the wider current of Greek and Roman thought.

²⁴² Majercik (1992: 188) says that “A good number of Hermetic and Gnostic writings can be classed as dialogues, but in the specific sense of ‘revelation’ or ‘initiation’ dialogues. The emphasis in these texts is not on philosophical debate or argumentation but on the imparting of secret, esoteric knowledge (‘gnosis’) by a divine, revealer figure to a disciple-devotee”. In the dissertation, we will develop our interpretation of John’s dialogue with the presupposition that Hermetic and Gnostic dialogues are post-Johannine. Perkins (1980: 19; cf. Collins, 1979: 25) states that, “Many Gnostic writings adopt the dialogue as part of their literary form. Unlike the lively drama of the Platonic dialogue or the more pedantic style of the philosophic dialogue by Cicero or Augustine, the Gnostic dialogue does not aim at an exchange of ideas and an examination of philosophical positions”. Perkins (1980: 19) further says, “The Gnostic dialogue sets off statements of Gnostic myth and teaching. The artificiality of some of the questions suggests that the protagonists never represent a real alternative. They merely provide the revealer with an opportunity to discharge his mission. Thus the philosophic dialogue tradition can hardly have been a source for Gnostic composition”.

²⁴³ Ellen van Wolde is a Dutch scholar of the OT and the author of *Reframing Biblical Studies* (Eisenbrauns, 2009). The statement quoted here is part of my interview with her at the Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, The Netherlands, in May 2011. Cf. Van Wolde, 1997: 1-28. Also see Guilding, 1960.

²⁴⁴ Waltke (2001: 92) states that, “God models justice. The just King will not pass sentence without careful investigation (cf. 4:9-10; 18:21). Although omniscient, God questions them, inducing them to confess their guilt”. Waltke’s analysis of the passage provides us clues about his understanding of a confrontation between God and Adam. Westermann (1994: 254-78) analyses the dialogue in his own terms. In vv. 11-13, he observes an ‘interrogation and defense’ pattern employed by the narrator of the story. Wenham (1987: 1: 50) observes the interaction of dialogue (3:1-5 [snake and woman]; 3:9-13 [God, man and woman]) and narrative (3:6-8 [man and woman]; 3:14-21 [God main actor, man minor role, woman and snake passive]; 3:22-24 [God sole actor: man passive]) within the framework of chap. 3.

²⁴⁵ In Gen 12:1-9, the dialogue between God and Abram is framed as an implicit one. God commands Abram and he obeys the commands one by one. Cf. Waltke, 2001: 204-10; Guilding, 1960.

²⁴⁶ Noth (1962: 39; cf. Ryken, 2005: 79-111) says that, “This local tradition of the holy place of the burning bush in the wilderness has now entered the Israelite tradition to give a concrete background to the story of Moses’ first encounter with God”.

the OT. The dialogues of the OT usually maintain an 'inner-negotiation'²⁴⁷ and 'confrontation' pattern.²⁴⁸ The conciliatory and confrontational natures of the dialogue maintain a dualistic distinction between the 'inner circle' and the 'outer circle' (cf. Van Wolde, 2011).²⁴⁹ The natures of these dialogues are often functioning in revelatory fashion. The implicit nature of the disputes between Cain and Abel is placed in the early pages of the Book of Genesis (cf. Westermann, 1994: 1: 284-87; Waltke, 2001: 96-99).²⁵⁰ The Cain and Abel dispute is formed in a fashion similar to many of the Sumero-Babylonian dialogues.²⁵¹ Dialogues also play a significant role in the prophetic writings such as Isaiah,²⁵² Jeremiah,²⁵³ and Ezekiel²⁵⁴ (cf. Greenberg, Allen, 1994).²⁵⁵ The stubborn nature of the prophet Jonah, who refuses to speak with the people of Nineveh (1:1-17) is changed by God to one who speaks toward the end of the story (cf. Greenberg, 1987: 431-500; Sasson, 1990: 65-352). In the Book of Micah, the prophet's implicit dialogue with the false prophets is in line with the usual prophetic tradition of the OT (cf. Andersen, Freedman, 2000; Smith, 1984: 4-60).²⁵⁶

²⁴⁷ The inner-negotiation pattern is employed in the context of people's loyalty toward the commandment of Yahweh. This is usually used in the context of Yahweh's relationship with the people of Israel.

²⁴⁸ The outer-confrontation pattern is employed in the case of people's disloyalty toward Yahweh and his commandments. This is usually used in the case of Yahweh's relationship with the non-Israelites.

²⁴⁹ This distinction is made between "the people of God" and "the enemies of God".

²⁵⁰ Wenham (1987: 1: 99) structures Gen 4:2b-16 as follows: *first*, narrative (vv. 2b-5: Cain, Abel main narrative; Yahweh passive); *second*, dialogue (vv. 6-7: Yahweh questioning Cain); *third*, [dialogue] narrative (v. 8: Cain and Abel alone); *fourth*, dialogue (vv. 9-14: Yahweh and Cain); and *fifth*, narrative (vv. 15-16: Yahweh active; Cain passive). This structural framework is appropriate for the development of the implied dialogue.

²⁵¹ This is one of the basic arguments of Erik Eynikel (Professor of OT studies, Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands). His view is expressed here on the basis of my interview with him in May 2010.

²⁵² The book of Isaiah follows a typical method in communicating the message of Yahweh to the people of Israel. Watts (1985: xlv; also see pp. xlv-l) says, "In vision literature, the person of the prophet falls into the background. Yahweh becomes the dominant speaker, and the dominant sub-form is that of the Yahweh speech. His speech is supported and amplified by others, but the speakers are seldom identified. They are understood to be Yahweh or his prophets, whether these are taken as members of his heavenly court or as prophets". Implicitly, different layers of dialogue are present: *first*, between Yahweh and other speakers of the vision; *second*, between Yahweh and the people to whom the message is destined (this is mostly done through the medium of the prophets); and *third*, between the medium of the prophets and the people to whom the message is sent.

²⁵³ The Book of Jeremiah begins in the form of a dialogue between Yahweh and Jeremiah, where Yahweh is the dominant speaker (1:5, 7-8, 9-10, 11, 12, 13a, 14-16, 17-19) and Jeremiah is the respondent (1:6, 11b, 13b). Cf. Jeremias (1965: 3-8). This trend is repeated in several parts of the book. Lundblom (1992: 3: 710) states that, "speeches are dialogues and tripartite dialogues with Yahweh, Jeremiah, the people, and even the enemy speaking in turn (4:19-22; 5:1-7; 8:18-21)".

²⁵⁴ In the Book of Ezekiel, dramatic actions and speeches are regular. The oracles and literary forms are noted for their diversity and freshness. Disputation is one of the methods in the writing. Boadt (1992: 717) states that "[Ezekiel] quotes God's word to him to people when they ask about the death of his wife (24:21-24); he quotes God's word to people against themselves in 18:29 and 37:11; and he quotes dialogue with God as a reason for his words in places (see 9:8-10; 12:23-25)".

²⁵⁵ One of the characteristic features of the prophetic writings of the OT is the combination of literary genres, including poetry and prose.

²⁵⁶ In Micah's prophetic sayings, three genres are prominent: the judgment speech, the mourning cry, and the disputation speech (cf. Wolff, 1990: 10). Wolff (1990: 11) states that, "The *disputation speech* probably belongs well to the rhetorical forms of the elders at the city gate; the form occurs in 2:6-11. It begins with a quotation of Micah's opponents, who register their protest (v. 6) and then ask questions (v. 7a)". He (1990: 11) further states that

As indicated above, many of the texts in the OT are built up in the form of dialogues between characters. The Book of Job has this pattern at a distinct level. The ‘happy ending’ pattern of the Book of Job finds parallels with the materials from Mesopotamia and Egypt (cf. Clines, 1989).²⁵⁷ Majercik (1992: 186; cf. De Regt, 2007: 119, 162) points out that, “Among the OT writings, the Book of Job is the chief example of a literary work in dialogue form, but a type of dialogue that is influenced by literary precedents in ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt”.²⁵⁸ This feature of the text provides dramatic appeal to the portrayal of Job’s story (cf. Denning-Bolle, 1992: 69-70). The majority of the OT scriptures maintain dialogue and dramatic style as a rhetorical means of the texts. According to De Regt (2007: 119), “As a literary means to achieve more drama, dialogue can be made to carry the main part of the story (Gen 23:4-15; cf. Westermann, 1995: 370-76)²⁵⁹ and bring out a character’s real disposition (e.g., Ahab in 1 Kings 22; cf. DeVries, 1985: 259-74; Cogan, 2001: 487-501). Through dialogue an argument can be skilfully built up”.²⁶⁰ The incorporation of dialogues and turbulent situations contribute toward the dramatic nature of the narrative (cf. De Regt, 2007b: 162; Guilding, 1960).

The Johannine dialogues show striking similarities with the dialogues of the OT. As in the case of the OT dialogues, the Johannine dialogues maintain an “inner-negotiation” and “outer-confrontation” pattern. But John employs that pattern in his own way. Though we identify similarities between the dialogues of the OT and the Gospel of John, John employs the pattern in his own terms to comfort the “believing insiders” and to address the “unbelieving outsiders”. Moreover, while the OT dialogues develop with an ongoing expectation of the forthcoming Messiah, John’s dialogue reveals that the messianic expectations came to fulfillment in Jesus and that the Messiah himself is the protagonist of the story (cf. Guilding, 1960). This distinction is the key factor of the Johannine dialogues.

4.1.4. The Synoptic Traditions

The literary frameworks of the Synoptic Gospels provide ample references to prove the fact that dialogue was used by the gospel writers in the first century CE context. The Gospel of Mark is mostly an action-packed and dramatic gospel that develops within a narrative framework (cf. Guelich, 1989: xxii-xxv).²⁶¹ The point of view and the plot structure of the gospel show the

accordance with the style of the disputation, a reply is then given, which, formulated as direct address (second person), immediately shifts from a general accusation (v. 8a) to concrete reproaches (vv. 8b-10”).

²⁵⁷ Hartley (1988) provides details about the parallel literature of the ANE (pp. 6-11), literary issues (pp. 20-33), structure and genres (pp. 35-43), and the dialogues (pp. 103-373) in detail.

²⁵⁸ In that sense, its portrayal does not fit with the classical Greek dialogue or other Greek literary styles (notably epic and tragedy; cf. Majercik, 1992: 187; Pope, 1965: xxix-xxx).

²⁵⁹ In Gen 23: 4-15, a dialogue develops between Abraham and the Hittites in the context of the death and burial of Sarah. Westermann (1995: 371) says, “it is essentially a dialogue fashioned entirely after the pattern of the neo-Babylonian ‘dialogue-contrasts’, but adapted to Abraham’s situation”.

²⁶⁰ E.g., 2 Sam 14, the Tekoite woman; cf. Anderson, 1989: 185-91; McCarter, 1984: 335-52.

²⁶¹ Marcus (2000: 69; cf. Stein, 2008) says that, “Mark may very well be a dramatization of the good news that was originally staged in the context of a Christian worship service While this dramatisation may borrow generic

development of the conflict and the characterisation of the story.²⁶² Jesus' character is on the surface and the narrator does not show much interest in the argumentative trend at the outset of the gospel. While John's gospel introduces John the Baptist with the help of detailed dialogues and a monologue (1:19-36),²⁶³ Mark introduces him through narratives and a reported monologue (cf. Marcus, 2000: 62).²⁶⁴ In John, Jesus is introduced in a dialogic mode (1:38-39a); but in Mark he is introduced by the help of a heavenly utterance (1:11), a narrative section (1:12-14) and Jesus' own utterance (1:15; cf. Guelich, 1989: xxiv).²⁶⁵ In Mark, the interlocutors come on stage, make statements, and Jesus responds to them one by one.²⁶⁶ In the majority of cases, people's amazement is reported. In many cases, Jesus' discourses are parabolic to outsiders and interpretative to insiders (4:2-34; 7:5-23; 10:2-12; 10:13-31; cf. Achtemeier, 1992: 549). An utterance followed by his interlocutor's action is another pattern used in the gospel (6:7-13; in other cases, Jesus alone speaks (2:2) and tells his interlocutors to remain silent (1:44a; 3:12-13; 8:26; 8:30; 9:9).²⁶⁷ While in many cases the dialogic seams and utterance units mark the abbreviated style, passive voice formats, and implicit dialogic aspects, in several other cases the evangelist uses direct speech formulas and historical presents.²⁶⁸ The narrator also incorporates community talks (1:27-28; 2:12; 4:41; 6:14-15) and conspiracies (3:6) within the storyline. The varied literary developments within the Gospel of Mark make the reader aware that the narrator of the gospel, though using the dialogue genre, was not too conscious of the usage of the genre in the case of John.

features from known forms such as dramas, biographies, and biblical histories, it is also a new creation because of its close link with the Christian liturgical setting". Cf. Gardner-Smith, 1938.

²⁶² Guelich (1989: xxiv; also see Guelich, 1992: 515) says that, "we find conflict between Jesus and the devil (e.g., 1:12-13, 21-27; cf. 3:23-27), between Jesus and the Roman authorities (e.g., 15:2-15), between Jesus and Jewish authorities (e.g., 2:1-3:6; 12:13-44), between Jesus and his family (e.g., 3:20-21, 31-35; cf. 6:1-6), between Jesus and his disciples (e.g., 4:40; 8:14-21; 14:26-31), and even between Jesus and God (e.g., 14:35-36; cf. 15:34-39)."

²⁶³ The narrative framework of the Gospel of Mark contains several other discourses in monologue format (1:1-11; 12: 35-44; 13:5-37; 16:15-18).

²⁶⁴ Donahue and Harrington (2002: 5) point out three positions among the scholars with regard to the connection between Mark and John. They say that, "Three positions emerge: John does not know Mark or the traditions of Mark; John knows the Gospel of Mark; and John and Mark share some common traditions, even though each expresses them in distinctive ways". In our analysis, we would suggest the idea that Mark and John share from a larger common thought world and develop the traditions in their own terms.

²⁶⁵ For more details about the 'independence' and 'dependence' of John, refer to Marcus, 2000: 53-54. In Mark, the pericopes appear as self-contained but disconnected units. Guelich (1992: 517) says that, "Woven together are isolated units, pre-formed blocks of traditional units and an extended unit underlying the passion narrative, by which is composed a moving story full of action and pathos". Cf. Gardner-Smith, 1938.

²⁶⁶ See Mark 1:37-38; 2:16-17; 2:18-22; 2:23-28; 3: 21-30; 3:31-35; 4:38-40; 6:2b-4; 7:5-16; 8:32-9:1; 9:10-13; 10:1-10; 11:21-26; 11: 27-33; 12: 13-17; 13:3-37; 14: 4-9; 14: 29-31.

²⁶⁷ In a few cases, the interlocutors remain silent (3:4; 9:34). Jesus encourages his interlocutors to "be mere listeners" (4:3, 10, 23, 24a, 33). In one occasion the Pharisees came and began to argue with Jesus (8:11); but Jesus avoided the argument and leaves to go away. Also see inferences about the argumentative attitudes of the scribes (9:14) and the disciples (9:33).

²⁶⁸ The descriptions here are narrated in comparison to John's narrations. A person who analyzes Mark's Gospel in isolation may find several striking features. Lane (1974: 26) is of the view that, "Within a narrative the evangelist shows a preference for direct speech. He is especially fond of using the present tense to relay past happening and employs this 'historical present' over 150 times when other writers would have used the simple past tense". See Mark 2:5-12; 5:6-20; 21-43; 6:22-26; 7:26-30; 8:15-21; 8: 27-30; 9: 16-29; 10: 2-12; 10:13-31; 10:32-45; 10: 46-52; 13: 34; 15: 8-15.

In Matthew (cf. 1: 20b-25; 2:13-15; and 2: 19-23), the angel speaks to Joseph and he obeys the angelic commandment (cf. Hagner, 1993: 14-17, 33-35).²⁶⁹ In 2:1-2, the wise men appear with a question, but no dialogue is developed in the story (cf. Turner, 2008: 78-81). While in the FG John the Baptist is introduced as one who dialogues with the Jews (1:19-28), in Matthew he is introduced as a speaker in his own right (3:7-12). On one occasion, in Matthew, John the Baptist comes up with a question to which Jesus responds (3:13-15; cf. Hagner, 1993: 54-55). Jesus is mostly introduced as one who communicates in larger discourses than in dialogues (cf. Davies and Allison, 1988: 1: 58-72).²⁷⁰ But at the same time some of the discourses show dialogic format (see 12:24-45; 18:1-35; 21:23-22:14; 24:3-24:46; cf. Beare, 1981: 19-29).²⁷¹ Moreover, some of the discourses are portrayed at two levels, i.e., to the outsiders and to the insiders (13:3-52; 15:1-20; 17:14-21; 19:3-15; 19:16-20:16; cf. Allen, 1907).²⁷² The dramatic dialogue between Jesus and the devil (4:1-11) is one of the significant passages in the gospel. As in Mark, interlocutors approach Jesus with a question or request and Jesus responds to them.²⁷³ On certain occasions, Jesus the protagonist strictly orders his interlocutors to be silent (8: 4a; 9:30; 12: 16; 16: 20; 17:9). Some of the dialogic trends of Matthew such as *request-rebuke-response* (8:25-27; 15:21-28; cf. France, 1985: 161-2), *double meaning-misunderstanding-clarification* (16:5-12),²⁷⁴ and *statement/action-misunderstanding-clarification* (21:18-22; cf. Harrington, 1991/2007: 296-8; Abbott, 1905) are reminiscent to the Johannine style of writing.²⁷⁵

In the infancy narratives of Luke dialogues develop at the outset between the angel of the Lord and Zechariah (1:13-20; cf. Marshall, 1978: 55-61; Johnson, 1991: 33-36),²⁷⁶ between the angel and

²⁶⁹ The angelic commandments followed by Joseph's obedience suggest the implicit nature of the dialogue.

²⁷⁰ See Matthew 5:3-7:27; 10:5-42; 11:4-30; 13:3-52; 18:3-20, 22-35; 23:1-39; 24:4-25: 46.

²⁷¹ The dialogic format is maintained in 16:13-20; 19:3-15; 19:16-20:16; 20:17-28 and 27:15-26 (cf. Allen, 1907). Moreover, dialogic seams and implicit dialogues are sustained in the gospel on several occasions. Also see Matthew 14:15-21, 25-33; 15: 32-39; 17:24-27; 20:29-34; 22:15-22; 26:20-25, 30-35, 59-68, 69-75; 27:3-4. Some of these are maintaining a dialogue-to-action format. For more details about the structure and the literary characteristics of Matthew, refer to Davies/Allison, 1988: 1: 58-96; France, 1985: 17-27; Meier, 1992: 4: 622-41.

²⁷² In Matthew 13:3-52, Jesus' discourse is interrupted by the questions of his interlocutors (13:10, 36). Hagner (1993: lvii-lix) states that, "The genre, or literary character and form, of a document is vitally related to the purpose of its author". Hagner identifies several possible answers such as a *gospel*, a *midrash*, a *lectionary*, a *catechesis* or *catechetical manual*, a *church corrective*, a *missionary propaganda*, and a *polemic against the rabbis*. Hagner (1993: lix) says, "That Jesus debates and criticizes the Pharisees so frequently through the course of the Gospel (see esp. chap. 23) leads naturally to the conclusion that the author and his readers faced a continuing problem in their defense of the gospel against the claims of the synagogue".

²⁷³ See Matthew 8:1-4, 5-13, 18-22, 29-32; 9:3-6, 10-13, 14-17, 27-31; 11:2-6; 12: 1-8, 10-12; 47-50; 15: 1-11; 16:1-4; 16: 21-28; 17:10-13; 21: 14-16; 22:23-33; 26: 8-13, 17-18. In some cases Jesus responds to them after performing a miracle/action. In other cases, Jesus' command is followed by the action of his interlocutor (4:18-22; 9:9) is well maintained. Beare (1981: 20) says that "many of the sayings in Matthew are not set in any sermon, but pronouncements made in response to questioners or critics, or at a dinner table in the presence of a small group of guests". Beare (1981: 20) further says, "Obviously, these are not more than random samples of his talk; no one will imagine that we are told about every encounter with individuals or with little groups. It is clear, then, that Matthew is far from offering anything like a complete repertoire of all that Jesus said".

²⁷⁴ Also see the sequence of *question of Jesus-response of the interlocutors-elaboration of Jesus* in 22:41-46.

²⁷⁵ Hagner (1993: lix) says that "variety of options concerning the genre of Matthew indicates something of its multifaceted character".

²⁷⁶ But the muting of Zechariah hindered the further chances of dialogue.

Mary (1:26-38),²⁷⁷ and between twelve-year old Jesus and the teachers (2:46-47).²⁷⁸ As in John, the dialogue between John the Baptist and his interlocutors is reported in 3:7-17 (cf. John 1:19-28; Nolland, 1989: 17-25, 127-8, 146-7).²⁷⁹ As in Matthew, a dramatic dialogue between Jesus and the devil is unfolded in 4:3-12 (cf. Matthew 4:1-11). Luke has proper dialogues (5:30-39; 9:10:25-37) and dialogic seams²⁸⁰ as important literary elements within the narrative framework (cf. Green, 1997: 1-5). Other forms such as the utterance of Jesus followed by the action of the interlocutors (9:3-6), dialogue to monologue sequence (9:18-27; 20:2-18), *request-rebuke* formula (9:37-43; cf. Johnson, 1991: 157-61), and insider-and-outsider/two-level speech (cf. Fitzmyer, 1970: 713-21) are rhetorically used within the Lukan Gospel (cf. Marshall, 1978: 348-412; Bock, 1994: 809-900). In several cases, the interlocutors come with a question or request and Jesus responds to them one after another (cf. 6:2-5; 7:18-23; 8:20-21; 10:38-42; 13:20:21-26, 27-38; cf. Nolland, 1989). Just as in Matthew and in John, Luke also includes discourses of Jesus in the gospel.²⁸¹ In Luke, dialogic characteristics are maintained even when discourses are narrated. As in Mark and in Matthew, Luke also uses the phenomenon of Jesus' silencing his interlocutors from spreading news about him (cf. 5:14; 9:21; cf. Marshall, 1978: 209-10; Green, 1997: 237-8, 370-1). The above review of the Synoptic Gospels gives us ample evidence to prove that dialogue was used by the first three gospel writers. But a thorough investigation of the four gospels reveals that John uses dialogue as a literary genre in a more concentrated way than that of the synoptic evangelists (cf. Dodd, 1963: 315-65; Abbott, 1905). This fact will be examined in detail in part two of the dissertation.

4.2. A Proposed Definition of Dialogue in John

The two most important questions to address before we proceed with our study are: *first*, "What is a dialogue in John?" and, *second*, "How is a dialogue different from a conversation?" The first question can be dealt with the help of Terrence J. Martin's observation. He (1976: 24) observes that, "there are two layers of discourse at work in a dialogue: one between author and reader and another between the characters within the text. A literary dialogue, then, is a dialogue by means of a dialogue".²⁸² For our purposes, we will consider the nature and function of these two major

²⁷⁷ Elizabeth's exclamation to Mary's song (1:39-56) is dialogic in nature.

²⁷⁸ In the case of 2:46-47 a dialogue is implicit between Jesus and the teachers.

²⁷⁹ While the dialogue in John is between Jesus and the priests and Levites from Jerusalem, the dialogue in Matthew is between Jesus and the crowd. Also, the contents of these two dialogues are different.

²⁸⁰ For a broader understanding of the genre and purpose, refer to Johnson, 1991: 3-10. For details about the language and style refer to Fitzmyer, 1970: 107-127. See Luke 7:39-50; 8:22-5, 28-33, 40-56; 9:12-7, 46-50; 18:18-30, 35-43; 19:1-10, 28-40; 22:8-38, 54-62, 66-71; 23:1-5, 12-25, 39-43; 24:13-32, 33-49.

²⁸¹ See Luke 6:20-49; 7:24-35; 10:2-24; 11:2-13, 17-36; 39-44, 46-52; 12:1-13:9; 13:22-35; 14:3-17:10; 17:21-19:12-27; 21:3-36. For more details about the literary connection between Luke and John, refer to Morris, 1991: 63-64.

²⁸² Martin (1976: 24) continues by saying that, "The first layer of discourse is primary and ultimate (since the text is written to express what an author wants to say), but it depends upon the second layer of discourse (what is within the text) for its fruition".

of dialogue at work in John's Gospel.²⁸³ The second question can be dealt with in the following way. According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, the term 'conversation' is used in a more general sense as, the action of consorting or having dealings with others, occupation or engagement with things, interchange of thoughts and words, and a public conference, discussion or debate. The term 'dialogue', on the other hand, is used in a more specific sense as "a literary work in the form of a conversation between two or more persons; a conversation written for and spoken by actors on the stage; hence, in recent use, style of dramatic conversation or writing".²⁸⁴ It is this latter sense of dialogue, i.e., dialogue as a dramatic conversation in written form, which we will take as our position all throughout the dissertation.²⁸⁵ Majercik (1992: 185; see also Sharpe, 1987: 344-8;²⁸⁶ Millet, 1968: 358)²⁸⁷ holds this view when states that dialogue is the literary form of a conversation in which two or more people reason about some topic.²⁸⁸ But John D. Schaeffer is more inclusive when he defines dialogue and conversation in synonymous terms.²⁸⁹ For practical

²⁸³ In a literary text, there may be other layers of dialogue, such as: first, *intra-textual*; second, *inter-textual*; and third, *inner dialogue*. We may consider these aspects only when the text requires it. Our major concentration will be on the major two layers of dialogue, author/narrator-reader and characters within the narrative.

²⁸⁴ In educational, philosophical, and social circles, dialogue and conversation are discussed by the following authors: first, Buber, 1958; second, Freire (1972) considered dialogue as an educational form; third, Gadamer (1974) used conversation as a metaphor to think about how we may come to understand the subject matter at issue; fourth, Habermas (1984) emphasises two important aspects such as 'ideal speech situations' and 'communicative action'; fifth, Bohm (1997; along with Factor, and Garrett, *Dialogue-A Proposal*. 1991); and sixth, Ethics and human communication in Emmanuel Levinas (cf. Murray, 2003). Russian philosopher and semiotician Bakhtin's (1986: 117) theory of 'dialogue' emphasised the power of discourse to increase understanding of multiple perspectives and create myriad possibilities. Bakhtin held that relationships and connections exist among all living beings, and that dialogue creates a new understanding of a situation that demands change.

²⁸⁵ The definition of Aune (2003: 125) is an important one for us to take up here. He says that, "Dialogue, a transliteration of the Greek word *diálōgoi*, meaning 'conversation', is used of a literary form perfected by Plato in an attempt to reproduce a kind of philosophical conversation patterned after Socrates". For details about ancient Philosophical dialogues, refer to Denning-Bolle, 1992: 69-84; Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95.

²⁸⁶ Written dialogues on religion and on philosophical subjects have a long history. The most celebrated western examples are no doubt the dialogues of Plato, and particularly those in which the teaching methods of Socrates are presented on a question-and-answer basis. Within many religious traditions, dialogues between teachers and their pupils were recorded as a means of communicating and deepening insights. Sharpe (1987: 344-8) says, "The word *dialogue* means simply 'conversation', although in Western intellectual history its dominant meaning has been 'a piece of written work cast in the form of a conversation'".

²⁸⁷ According to Millet (1968: 358), "Dialogue, in its widest sense, is the recorded conversation of two or more persons. As a literary form it is a carefully organised exposition, by means of invented conversation, of contrasting philosophical positions or intellectual attitudes; or it an element in drama and fiction".

²⁸⁸ Similarly, Mittelstrass (1988: 126) also distinguishes between a conversation and a philosophical dialogue. Reid (1979: 1050) defines that, "Dialogue, in general, includes every form of meeting and communication between individuals, groups, and communities to bring about greater understanding and better human relations in an atmosphere of sincerity, integrity, respect for persons, and mutual confidence". Herman (1995: 2; cf. Felch, 2005: 173) considers dialogue as an I-and-You deictic tie or a face-to-face encounter.

²⁸⁹ The following things are conspicuous in his definition: first of all, he distinguishes between 'dialogue' and 'literary dialogue'; and second, he picks up 'conversation' as a synonymous term for both 'dialogue' and 'literary dialogue'. Schaeffer (1988: 387) says that, "a dialogue is a conversation—two or more people talking to each other. Literary dialogue is the written representation of a conversation".

reasons, we will consider the following position²⁹⁰ when we analyze the dialogues in the BS dialogue, in the sense of a Johannine literary genre; and *second*, conversation, as the major element within the dialogue, i.e., as praxis of the Johannine characters.

For our purposes, we need to define what a monologue is and then distinguish between a monologue and other variant(s) of the monologue. Cuddon (1977/1998: 517) sees monologue term used in a number of senses, with the basic meaning of a single person speaking alone or without an audience".²⁹¹ The above definition emphasizes that monologue is a single person's speech 'with or without an audience'.²⁹² This basic definition of the monologue will be applied to the speech units in the BS in order to distinguish a dialogue from a monologue. Alongside this we will also see how a proper monologue and a soliloquy function, i.e., in relation to the dialogue within the narratorial framework of John. Baldick (1990: 141) sees significant distinctions between a dramatic monologue²⁹³ (a kind of speech in which the speaker is imagined to be addressing a silent audience) and a soliloquy²⁹⁴ (in which the speaker is supposed to be 'overheard' alone).²⁹⁵ In our analysis of the BS, we will see the way proper monologue and soliloquy function alongside the dialogue in order to convey the message to the reader. A proper distinction of categories of speech units within the narrative framework of John may bring clarity and understanding of dialogue within the BS.

5. The Plan of the Research

Having discussed the rationale, aim and task, previous studies, methodology, use of 'dialogue' as a literary genre in other traditions, and with a preliminary definition of Johannine dialogue, in Part II, we will set a theoretical framework to explore the nature and function of dialogue in the BS. In Part II, we will analyse the dialogues of the BS both at the micro- and meso- levels. In the p

²⁹⁰ As in *Oxford English Dictionary*, and in the views of Majercik, Sharpe, and Millet.

²⁹¹ Carey and Snodgrass (1999: 92) define a 'monologue' as "the extended dramatic speech, prayer, lament, or soliloquy of a single person, with or without an audience". Carey and Snodgrass (1999: 78) see 'interior monologue' as "the random and often illogical flow of unspoken thoughts, memories, images, and impressions that is characteristic of stream-of-consciousness writing".

²⁹² Baldick (1990: 141) also has the same idea when he speaks about 'monologue' as "an extended speech uttered by one speaker, either to others or as if alone".

²⁹³ In our study, we consider all the monologues as dramatic when: *first of all*, they work in relation to the dialogue; and *second*, they are functioning within the dramatic set up of the narratives.

²⁹⁴ Baldick (1990: 207; cf. Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 143) says that, "Soliloquies often appear in plays from Shakespeare, notably in his *Hamlet* and *Macbeth* . . . Soliloquy is a form of monologue, but a monologue is not a soliloquy if (as in the dramatic monologue) the speaker is not alone".

²⁹⁵ Other features like 'interior monologue' (see Chatman, 1978: 181-86) and 'stream of consciousness' (see Chatman, 1978: 186-94) have to be seen in relation to proper monologue. Baldick (1990: 141) says that, "In prose fiction the interior monologue is a representation of a character's unspoken thoughts, sometimes rendered in the style known as stream of consciousness". Cuddon (1977/1998: 517-18) says that, "Most prayers, much lyric verse and all lamentations are monologues". At the same time he distinguishes four varieties within the larger umbrella term 'monologue': *first*, 'monodrama'; *second*, 'soliloquy'; *third*, 'solo'; and *fourth*, 'dramatic monologue'. Chatman (1978: 181; 1993: 81; Pfister, 1988: 127) defines a soliloquy as follows: "Soliloquy is perhaps best used as a term to designate nonnaturalistic or 'expressionistic' narratives in which the only informational source is that of characters presenting, explaining, and commenting upon things".

we will see the way individual utterance units function in relation to other utterances within the slots, and how the slot units function in relation to other slots within the episodes. Moreover, we will look at how the utterances and slots function within the narratorial framework of John. While we analyse the dialogue texts from a genre critical point of view, we will also make use of the problem-oriented approach to ponder the literary aspects of the BS. The combined function of the genre components such as content, form, and function will be analysed to determine the nature of the dialogue. In Part III, we will see the development of the different types of dialogue within the BS and will bring the study to a close. Finally, recommendations for further study will be offered.

Part Two

Micro- and Meso-Analyses of the Dialogues in the Book of Signs (John 1:19-12:50)

Episode One

A Glory-focused *Revelatory* Dialogue

(1:19-2:11)

1.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

John 1:19-2:11²⁹⁶ is set as a series of five slots (cf. 1:19-28, 29-34, 35-42, 43-51; 2:1-11)²⁹⁷ which take place within a span of one week (1:19-28, 29, 35, 39, 43; 2:1; cf. Tovey, 1997: 215).²⁹⁸ The narrator makes use of anaphora²⁹⁹ in order to present the dialogue chronologically and dramatically (see Table 1). According to Lindars (1972: 76), “The Gospel opens with an episodic narrative, woven together by the mention of successive days (1:29, 35, 39, 43; 2:1).³⁰⁰ It builds up to a climax, expressed in the statement that Jesus ‘manifested his glory’ (2:11)”.³⁰¹ While the narrative setting of the episode moves around (cf. 1:28, 29, 35, 39, 43; 2:1, 11, 12), the temporal setting proceeds as a series of days in order to provide a sequential order for the episode. *The first slot of*

²⁹⁶ Moloney (1998: 48-9; cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 23-37) considers vv. 19-28 as an incident happening on the “first day”.

²⁹⁷ According to Barrett (1978: 189-90; see Hoskyns, 1947: 172-92; Moloney, 1993: 60-85; Brodie, 1993: 146-176; von Wahlde, 2010: 80-1), “The series of dated events runs as follows: (a) John’s statement in reply to his questioners, 1:19-28; (b) τῇ ἐπαύριον—his pronouncement, Behold the Lamb of God, 1:29-34; (c) τῇ ἐπαύριον—renewed declaration; two disciples and Simon follow Jesus, 1:35-42; (d) τῇ ἐπαύριον—ἡθέλησεν ἐξελθεῖν; Philip and Nathanael, 1:43-51”. Barrett (1978: 189-90) says that, “The miracle at Cana follows τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ τρίτῃ; this means in Greek usage ‘the day after the morrow (αὔριον)’ and is probably to be reckoned from the day last mentioned, that of 1:43-51. We may thus count six complete days, the fifth being occupied, presumably, in travelling”.

²⁹⁸ See the way settings in the Platonic dialogues work (cf. Cooper, 1977: 1-2 [of *Euthyphro*], 17-18 [of *Apology*], 37-38 [of *Crito*], 49-50 [of *Phaedo*], 101-2 [of *Cratylus*], 457-58 [of *Symposium*]). Köstenberger (2004: 53; cf. Ridderbos, 1987: 61; Carson, 1991: 141) is of the opinion that “John 1:19 marks the beginning of the actual Gospel narrative. Most likely, the events from 1:19-2:11 describe one week in the ministry of Jesus”. Brown (1966: 45) is of the view that “The Gospel proper begins with the testimony of John the Baptist given on three days (1:29, 35), days which have symbolic rather than strictly chronological import”.

²⁹⁹ According to Resseguie (2005: 57), “Anaphora (sometimes called *epanaphora*) is the repetition of the same expression at the beginning of two or more successive clauses or sentences to add force to an argument”. In John 1:19-2:11, anaphora is used in order to distinguish slots from one another, i.e., by a chain of usage of the phrase τῇ ἐπαύριον (cf. 1:29, 35, 43; also Καὶ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ τρίτῃ, 2:1).

³⁰⁰ Though Lindars distinguishes between vv. 35-38 and vv. 39-42 on the basis of the mention about the overnight stay at v. 39, for our discussion we consider vv. 35-42 as a single whole on the basis of the following: *first*, Johannine style of anaphora at the beginning of each section (1:29, 35, 43; 2:1; the style of anaphora is not maintained by the narrator at 1:39); and *second*, the narrator does not make any intentional break in vv. 35-42.

³⁰¹ Brant (2011: 43) states that, “The stories of the Baptist’s identification of Jesus (1:19-34), how Jesus comes to have disciples (1:35-51), and the wedding at Cana (2:1-11) are three episodes within one narrative, the unity of which is demarcated by the progression of seven days”. What Brant says here makes good sense in the process of the analysis of the narratorial framework.

the episode (1:19-28) has a *geographical* and *topographical setting*.³⁰² The event at 1:19 looked at from one side of the Jordan River³⁰³ and the reader is invited to view the event across the river in Bethany (v. 28).³⁰⁴ Here the narrator presents the time of the baptism as the time of dialogue.³⁰⁵ While John the Baptist acts as the confessor about the coming of Jesus, the priests and the Levites appear on stage with religious questions.³⁰⁶ This forms a *religious setting* in which the messianic dialogue of the interlocutors takes place.³⁰⁷ The second slot (vv. 29-34) is set in the *geographical* and *topographical setting* and the event happens on “the next day” (τῇ ἐπαύριον) when John sees Jesus coming toward him (v. 29a).³⁰⁸

The third slot (vv. 35-42)³⁰⁹ is introduced by another τῇ ἐπαύριον (v. 35) and develops through the following sub-settings: *first*, a setting in which John is standing with two of his disciples (v. 36); *second*, a setting in which Jesus turns and sees John’s disciples following him (v. 38); *third*, a setting where Jesus stays and where the disciples also stay along with him (vv. 39b-c); *fourth*, a setting where Andrew finds Peter (v. 41); and *fifth*, a setting where Andrew brings Peter to Jesus (v. 42; see Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.25).³¹⁰ At the outset of the third slot, the narrator introduces John the Baptist and two of his disciples as the interlocutors. Jesus is slowly emerging in the words of Chatman, as a “walk-on” character.³¹¹ The usage of the phrase “the next day

³⁰² While geographical settings are mostly connected to the geographical locations or places (like Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, Galilee), topographical settings are connected to mountains, seas, deserts, and rivers. In 1:19-28, Bethany is the geographical location, the Jordan River is the topographical location. See Resseguie, 2005: 87.

³⁰³ It is the river that runs from Mount Hermon south to the Dead Sea, thus separating the western part of Palestine from the eastern part. See Thompson, 1992: 953-8.

³⁰⁴ Von Wahlde (2010: 39; see Bruce, 1983: 51; Boice, 1975: 123-30; Michaels, 1984/1989: 35; Haenchen, 1980: 152-6) says that, “There are two Bethanias mentioned in the Gospel of John. This one is not the town near Jerusalem (John 1:28; 12:1) but another by the same name located in Transjordan. It is referred to again in 3:26 and 10:40”. Clar (1988: 388) states that, “The locale of the activity of John the Baptist, according to John 1:28, where it is described as ‘beyond the Jordan’ (i.e., East of the river). But such a locale or such a town remains unknown and unidentified. Because of this passage alone, some maps show a Bethany on the East side of the Jordan, a little North of the Dead Sea (i.e., near the traditional site of the baptism)”.

³⁰⁵ Moloney (1998: 50-1; cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 28-49) says that, “The description of events surrounding the Jerusalem delegation to the Baptist occupies the first day of the story (vv. 19-28). Three further days are subsequently highlighted: ‘the next day’ (v. 29: τῇ ἐπαύριον); ‘the next day again’ (v. 35: τῇ ἐπαύριον πάλιν); ‘the next day’ (v. 42: τῇ ἐπαύριον) These days come to their climax in 2:1-12”

³⁰⁶ Read about John the Baptist in Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.190.

³⁰⁷ The Jews’ questions and John’s answers are filled with a lot of religious connotations, hopes, and beliefs.

³⁰⁸ Reinhartz (1994/1995: 567) says that, “The next day marks Jesus’ first appearance on the scene”. Here readers can think of either the same location where John was on the previous day (i.e., on the other side of River Jordan) or a new location. See Boice, 1975: 131-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 21-4; Haenchen, 1980: 152-6; Bruce, 1983: 51.

³⁰⁹ Bultmann (1971: 97-98) makes the following hypothetical assumptions about this passage: *first*, the passage is essentially uniform; *second*, the movement of the narrative is interrupted by minor additions; *third*, the additions can be traced back to the evangelist, so we must assume that the evangelist is here using a literary source; and *fourth*, the passage is connected with the preceding section in v. 35: τῇ ἐπαύριον πάλιν, assuredly comes from his pen, and certainly the choral scheme in v. 43. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 55-73; Boice, 1975: 139-45; Michaels, 1984/1989: 38; Haenchen, 1980: 158.

³¹⁰ Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 307) identifies two closely-linked scenes within 1:35-42: *first*, the two disciples following Jesus, vv. 35-39; and *second*, the meeting with Simon Peter in vv. 40-42. Ridderbos (1987: 78) considers vv. 35-42 as a transition section from the public ministry of John the Baptist to that of Jesus.

³¹¹ See Resseguie, 2005: 87-8; Harmon and Holman, 1999: 417; Malbon, 1986; Chatman, 1978: 138-9; Kahane and Nightingale, 1995. John’s narratives are scenic in their presentation as in the case of a typical Platonic dialogue.

be understood as a narrative technique in order to introduce the change of interlocutors from one slot to the other and to set up the larger narrative framework.

The fourth slot (vv. 43-51) introduces yet another series of sub-settings: *first*, a setting in which Jesus talks with Philip (vv. 43-44);³¹² *second*, a setting where Jesus finds Nathanael (v. 47a); and *third*, a setting where Nathanael sits under a fig tree.³¹³ The dialogue here introduces another independent slot framed within the narratives. Factors such as ‘the next day’ as the chronological indicator, Jesus’ journey to Galilee as the occasion, and the entry of new interlocutors [Philip and Nathanael] introduce an altogether new context for the dialogue.³¹⁴ As the dialogue of vv. 43-51 progresses, just as in the case of a typical Platonic dialogue, the “scene” disappears and the “action” now centers exclusively on debating a specific religious or philosophical problem.³¹⁵ The *geographical setting* of *the fifth slot* (2:1-12) is Cana of Galilee and the main interlocutors are Jesus, Mary the mother of Jesus (cf. Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.253), and the chief steward. In vv. 1-2, the time (τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ τρίτῃ), the place (ἐν Κανᾷ τῆς Γαλιλαίας, cf. Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.494), and the reason (2:1,11; γάμος ἐγένετο)³¹⁶ for the gathering (ἐκλήθη, the mother of Jesus, Jesus, the disciples) are established.³¹⁷ According to Brodie (1993: 171),³¹⁸ “The setting is an extraordinary festive one—a wedding. But then, disaster—the wine fails. The crisis, however, instead of leading to bitter disappointment, opens the way for Jesus and a delightful surprise—over a hundred gallons of fine wine”.³¹⁹ The entire episode ends with an itinerary note (2:12) that Jesus went down to Capernaum, another geographical location, with his mother, brothers, and disciples, and they remained there a few days. The table below gives us an overview about the explicit dialogic slot-development of the episode:

dialogues or conversations can be found in Greek drama, history, and oratory. Here scene and setting are interchangeably used. Scene or setting is a part of a film/movie, play or book in which the action happens in one place or is of one particular type. It can also be one of the small sections that a play or an opera is divided into. It is the background against which the narrative action takes place. For more details about Plato and Platonic scenes, refer to Denning-Bolle, 1992: 70-6; Schaeffer, 1998: 387-91; Majercik, 1992: 185-6.

³¹² The narrator introduces the fact that Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter; the place where Philip found Nathanael (v. 45a). See Haenchen, 1980: 163-8.

³¹³ It is introduced by way of a memory statement; v. 48b. Cf. Brown, 1966: 86-8.

³¹⁴ Kanagaraj (2005: 89; see Keener, 2003: 480; Haenchen, 1980: 163-8) says that, “The location of Jesus’ ministry now moves from Bethany on the eastern side of the Jordan to the western side of the sea of Galilee”.

³¹⁵ Majercik (1992: 185) records about the topics of Platonic dialogues, i.e., ‘what is piety?’, ‘what is temperance?’, and ‘what is beauty?’ Similarly, the Johannine dialogues develop around themes like ‘the expected Messiah’, ‘the identity of John the Baptist’, and ‘the revelation of the Messiah to the world’.

³¹⁶ Ridderbos (1987: 99) is of the opinion that “The story ties chronologically and materially with the preceding story, especially with 1:50. The events occur ‘on the third day’ (2:1) after the events narrated in 1:43-51 and make a start with what, in 1:50-51, Jesus had offered in prospect as ‘greater things’”. Cf. Haenchen, 1980: 172; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 33-7; Von Wahlde, 2010: 81-6; Michaels, 1984/1989: 45-9.

³¹⁷ Culpepper (1983: 133) sees a ‘contrast of characterisation’ in 2:1-11. He says, “In contrast to John the Baptist, who is introduced by name and role, Jesus’ mother appears un-introduced in her two scenes (i.e., 2:1-5 and 19:25-27). Her role is scarcely defined, and she is not even named”. Cf. Keener, 2003: 495-501; Von Wahlde, 2010: 80-2.

³¹⁸ Stibbe (1993: 48) is of the opinion that there is a marked change of setting at the start of chap. 2 (from Bethany to Cana); this indicates the start of a new narrative section. Cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 45-9; Haenchen, 1980: 172.

³¹⁹ Keener (2003: 495; cf. Haenchen, 1980: 172; Michaels, 1984/1989: 45-49) says that, “The features of the sign’s setting appear significant to John’s narrative: the location, the day, and the wedding celebration”.

Slots	Episode 1: John 1:19-2:12 (See the notes on each slots) ³²⁰
Slot # 1 ³²¹	<p><i>Jews:</i> Σὺ τίς εἶ;</p> <p><i>John:</i> Ἐγὼ οὐκ εἰμὶ ὁ Χριστός</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Τί οὖν; Σὺ Ἡλίας εἶ;</p> <p><i>John:</i> Οὐκ εἰμὶ</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Ὁ προφήτης εἶ σύ;</p> <p><i>John:</i> Οὐ</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Τίς εἶ; ἵνα ἀποκρισιν δώμεν τοῖς πέμψασιν ἡμᾶς· τί λέγεις περὶ σεαυτοῦ;</p> <p><i>John:</i> Ἐγὼ φωνὴ βοῶντος ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, Εὐθύνετε τὴν ὁδὸν κυρίου, καθὼς εἶπεν Ἡσαiah προφήτης</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Τί οὖν βαπτίζεις εἰ σὺ οὐκ εἶ ὁ Χριστὸς οὐδὲ Ἡλίας οὐδὲ ὁ προφήτης;</p> <p><i>John:</i> Ἐγὼ βαπτίζω ἐν ὕδατι· μέσος ὑμῶν ἔστηκεν ὃν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε, ὃ ὀπίσω μου ἔρχόμενος, οὗ οὐκ εἰμὶ [ἐγὼ] ἄξιος ἵνα λύσω αὐτοῦ τὸν ἱμάντα τοῦ ὑποδήματος</p>
Slot # 2 ³²²	<p><i>John's declaration:</i> Ἴδε ὁ ἄμνός τοῦ θεοῦ ὁ αἴρων τὴν ἁμαρτίαν τοῦ κόσμου. οὗτός ἐστιν ὃν ὑπερ ὃ ἐγὼ εἶπον, Ὅπισω μου ἔρχεται ἀνὴρ ὃς ἔμπροσθέν μου γέγονεν, ὅτι πρῶτός ἐστιν ἢ ἐγώ. ἐγὼ οὐκ ᾔδειν αὐτόν, ἀλλ' ἵνα φανερωθῇ τῷ Ἰσραὴλ διὰ τοῦτο ἦλθον ἐγὼ ἐν ὕδατι βαπτίζων.</p> <p><i>John's testimony:</i> Τεθέαμαι τὸ πνεῦμα καταβαῖνον ὡς περιστερὰν ἐξ οὐρανοῦ καὶ ἔμειν ἐπ' αὐτόν. ἐγὼ οὐκ ᾔδειν αὐτόν, ἀλλ' ὁ πέμψας με βαπτίζειν ἐν ὕδατι ἐκεῖνός μοι εἶπε· ὅτι ὃν ἂν ἴδῃς τὸ πνεῦμα καταβαῖνον καὶ μένον ἐπ' αὐτόν, οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ βαπτίζων ἐν πνεύματι ἁγίῳ. ἐγὼ ἐώρακα καὶ μεμαρτύρηκα ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ.</p>
Slot # 3 ³²³	<p><i>John</i> (to his disciples): Ἴδε ὁ ἄμνός τοῦ θεοῦ</p> <p><i>Jesus</i> (to John's disciples): Τί ζητεῖτε;</p> <p><i>John's Disciples</i> (to Jesus): Ῥαββί, ποῦ μένεις;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ἐρχεσθε καὶ ὄψεσθε</p> <p><i>Andrew</i> (to Peter): Εὐρήκαμεν τὸν Μεσσίαν</p> <p><i>Jesus</i> (to Peter): Σὺ εἶ Σίμων ὁ υἱὸς Ἰωάννου, σὺ κληθήσῃ Κηφᾶς</p>
Slot # 4 ³²⁴	<p><i>Jesus</i> (to Philip): Ἀκολουθεῖ μοι</p> <p><i>Philip</i> (to Nathanael): Ὁν ἔγραψεν Μωϋσῆς ἐν τῷ νόμῳ καὶ οἱ προφῆται εὐρήκαμεν, Ἰησοῦν υἱὸν τοῦ Ἰωσήφ τὸν ἀπὸ Ναζαρέτ</p> <p><i>Nathanael:</i> Ἐκ Ναζαρέτ δύναται τι ἀγαθὸν εἶναι;</p> <p><i>Philip:</i> Ἐρχου καὶ ἴδε</p> <p><i>Jesus</i> (about Nathanael): Ἴδε ἀληθῶς Ἰσραηλῆτης ἐν ᾧ δόλος οὐκ ἔστιν</p> <p><i>Nathanael:</i> Πόθεν με γινώσκεις;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Πρὸ τοῦ σε Φίλιππον φωνῆσαι ὄντα ὑπὸ τὴν συκὴν εἰδόν σε</p> <p><i>Nathanael:</i> Ῥαββί, σὺ εἶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ, σὺ βασιλεὺς εἶ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ὅτι εἰπόν σοι ὅτι εἰδόν σε ὑποκάτω τῆς συκῆς, πιστεύεις; μείζω τούτων ὄψη</p>

³²⁰ Between the dialogues the narrator provides the necessary information to allow the episode to flow. The and narratives are intertwined.

³²¹ Slot # 1 is mostly dialogue driven. Whether the dialogue of John the Baptist with the Jews (priests and Levi Jerusalem, 1:19-23; and the ones who were sent by Pharisees, 1:24-28) can be counted as a 'single event' or events amalgamated as one' is doubtful. The episodic flow of thought from the previous to the latter ensures that 1:19-28 represents an "at a stretch dialogue". The narratives play key role at the beginning (v. 19a), in the middle (v. 24), and at the end (v. 28).

³²² Slot # 2 begins with a narration (v. 29a). But, it is mostly made up of a monologue at two levels (vv. 29f-34). The usual Johannine trend of dialogues ending up in monologue makes its beginning here.

³²³ Slot # 3 is a narrative driven unit. Character utterances scattered all throughout the slot are interspersed with narratives (see vv. 36b, 38, 39a, 41, 42).

³²⁴ Slot # 4 is mostly a dialogue driven section (see vv. 43-51). The narratives play key role at the beginning of the slot (see vv. 43-45a, 47a).

	<i>Jesus</i> : Ἀμήν ἀμήν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὄψεσθε τὸν οὐρανὸν ἀνεωγμένον καὶ τοὺς ἀγγέλους τοῦ θεοῦ ἀναβαίνοντας καὶ καταβαίνοντας ἐπὶ τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου
Slot # 5 ³²⁵	<i>Mary</i> (to <i>Jesus</i>): Οἶνον οὐκ ἔχουσιν <i>Jesus</i> : Τί ἐμοὶ καὶ σοί, γύναι; οὐπω ἤκει ἡ ὥρα μου <i>Mary</i> (to servants): Ὁ τι ἂν λέγῃ ὑμῖν ποιήσατε <i>Jesus</i> (to the servants): Γεμίσατε τὰς ὑδρίας ὕδατος <i>Jesus</i> (to the servants): Ἀντλήσατε νῦν καὶ φέρετε τῷ ἀρχιτρικλίνῳ <i>Chief Steward</i> (to the bridegroom): Πᾶς ἄνθρωπος πρῶτον τὸν καλὸν οἶνον τίθησιν καὶ ὅταν μεθυσθῶσιν τὸν ἐλάσσων· σὺ τετήρηκας τὸν καλὸν οἶνον ἕως ἄρτι

Table 1: The dialogue text of 1:19-2:12

1.2. Micro-Analysis

The *form* and the *content* are integrally connected to one another. Separating one from the other is a difficult task and, at the same time, one exists in relation to the other. The form of a dialogue can be distinguished by an examination of its physical character, the characteristics of its intellectual content, or the order of information within it. Establishment of the dynamic relationship between *form* and *content* may provide insights about the *function* of the dialogue within and beyond the text. In the following analysis, we will see the way genre components (i.e., form, content, and function) together decide the nature of the dialogue in 1:19-2:11. In the micro-analysis level, we will closely look at the individual utterances in the text and their *content* and *form* within the slot structure. We will also investigate the backward and forward movements of individual sayings within the dialogue-slots and their combined efforts to *function* within and beyond the episode (see Diagram 1).

1.2.1. Slot One (1:19-28)³²⁶

The content³²⁷ of a slot can be analysed by taking up its semantic tenets.³²⁸ The slot at 1:19-28 transfers the attention of the reader from the prologue to the physical story of the gospel (see Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 61-62; Schmidt, 2000: 40-44). It is titled at the outset by the narrator as ἡ μαρτυρία τοῦ Ἰωάννου (v. 19a; cf. Engelen, 1983: 13; Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.190).³²⁹ The first three questions of the priests and Levites are about the identity of John the Baptist (vv. 19b,

³²⁵ Slot # 5 is another narrative driven pericope (see 2:1-12). Here too character utterances are interspersed into the narratives (see vv. 3b-5, 7a, 8, 10).

³²⁶ Slot # 1 (i.e., 1:19-28) records the dialogue of the first day. As the episode is arranged on the basis of the anaphoric narratorial sequence (i.e., 1:29, 35, 43; 2:1), the reader has to count the dialogue at 1:19-28 as the first day's event. See Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4.

³²⁷ While defining the narrative Chatman (1978: 146) says that, "Every narrative . . . is a structure with a content plane (called 'story') and an expression plane (called 'discourse')". In our analysis of dialogue, we will focus on the story plane and discourse plane separately.

³²⁸ "Semantics", according to Baldick (1990: 201; cf. Du Toit, 2009: 269-72) is, "the philosophical or linguistic study of meanings in language".

³²⁹ The dialogue as a whole can be viewed as a witness of John about himself and about the one who comes after him. Cf. Drewermann, 2003: 66-83; Dodd, 1963: 251-78; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Carson, 1991: 141-2.

21).³³⁰ They inquire: *first*, Σὺ τίς εἶ; (v. 19b); *second*, Τί οὖν; Σὺ Ἠλίας εἶ; (v. 21a); and Ὁ προφήτης εἶ σύ; (v. 21c). The wording of the questions is repetitive as they include εἶ in all three occurrences. Through the repetitive expressions the narrator makes the reader that the questions are aimed at inquiring about the identity of John the Baptist. The quest first part of the slot is to inquire whether John is the Messiah or he is Elijah/the prophet answers the questions in the following sequence: *first*, Ἐγὼ Οὐκ εἰμὶ ὁ Χριστός (v. Engelen, 1983: 14; Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.387); *second*, Οὐκ εἰμὶ (v. 21b); and *third*, 21d; cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 433-39; see Table 2).³³¹ As in the questions, the wording of answers repeats the expression οὐκ εἰμὶ/οὐ in order to inform his interlocutors that he is expected one.

Though the first question is “who are you?” (v. 19b; Σὺ τίς εἶ;), John understands the implication of the inquiry and answers accordingly (v. 20; cf. Perkins, 1978: 10-2).³³² The and third questions are raised with an expectation of “yes” or “no” answers (or “yes” or “no clarification; v. 21). The answer clues (Ἠλίας and Ὁ προφήτης) provided by the questioner lead the reader toward an understanding of Jesus’ messianic status (v. 21; cf. Brant, 2011: 47; I 1966: 43).³³³ John’s answers for the three questions can be summarised in the following figure: he is neither the Messiah nor Elijah nor the prophet (vv. 20-21; cf. Van Hartingsveld, 1980: see Table 2). The wording in the dialogue provides clues for meaning and that is the nature of Johannine dialogue.³³⁴ While John employs dialogue instead of pure narrative, he attests to foreground³³⁵ the characters through their utterances. After establishing the central quest at the first part of the slot, the narrator invites the reader toward the second part (cf. Michaels, 1984/1985: 36).³³⁶ The fourth question is filled with the expectation concerning John’s own witness (v.

³³⁰ Dods (1961: 692) says that, “The Baptist’s testimony was of supreme value because of: *first*, his appointment to this function of identifying the Messiah; *second*, his knowledge of Jesus; *third*, his own holiness; *fourth*, his personal interest in the people. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Carson, 1991: 141-2 1993: 31-4.

³³¹ The expressions of John the Baptist (i.e., “I am not”, Ἐγὼ οὐκ εἰμὶ, v. 20; Οὐκ εἰμὶ, v. 21) contrast well with the εἰμὶ sayings of Jesus all through the gospel. See Dods, 1961: 692-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 21-3.

³³² Dods (1961: 692-93) explains it in the following way: “Not, what is your name, or birth, but, what person you claim to be, what place in the community do you aspire to?—with an implied reference to a possible claim to be the Christ”. See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 23; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Carson, 1991: 141-3; Dodd, 1963: 251-78.

³³³ Dods (1961: 639) says that, “Allusion is made to this prophet (i.e., Ὁ προφήτης) in four places in this gospel: present verse (v. 21) and v. 25 of this chapter; also in 6:14 and 7:40”. See Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Carson, 1991: 141-3; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8.

³³⁴ Through the repetitive and inquisitive language and style, the reader is brought closer to the thinking pattern of the characters. This is a peculiar feature of Johannine quests in dialogue form. For more details about the language, refer to Warren and Wellek, 1955: 12-5.

³³⁵ Baldick (1990: 86) defines foregrounding as “giving unusual prominence to one element or property of a text relative to other less noticeable aspects”. According to the theories of Russian Formalism, literary works are significant in the virtue of the fact that they foreground their own linguistic status, thus drawing attention to how they say something rather than to what they say (see Baldick, 1990: 86). In John 1:19-28, instead of describing the things in pure narrative format, the narrator employs dialogue/quest language as a foregrounding technique.

³³⁶ The dialogue of the slot is divided between two parts: *first*, vv. 19-21 emphasises the identity of John; and *second*, vv. 22-28 emphasises the activity of John.

λέγεις περὶ σεαυτοῦ;).³³⁷ The narrator quotes from Isa 40:3 by saying that: *first*, John the Baptist is just the voice of someone crying out in the wilderness (v. 23a; Ἐγὼ φωνὴ βοῶντος ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, see Menken, 1996: 21-35); and *second*, he gives a clarion call for making straight the way of the Lord (v. 23b; Εὐθύνατε τὴν ὁδὸν κυρίου).³³⁸ Here John's answer takes the interlocutors back to their own traditions as he quotes from their own scripture (cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 43-4; Keener, 2003: 1: 437-43; see Table 2).

John 1:19-28	Overview
<p>v.19: Καὶ αὕτη ἐστὶν ἡ μαρτυρία τοῦ Ἰωάννου, ὅτε ἀπέστειλαν [πρὸς αὐτόν] οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἐξ Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἱερεῖς καὶ Λευῖτας ἵνα ἐρωτήσωσιν αὐτόν, Σὺ τίς εἶ;</p> <p>v.20: καὶ ὡμολόγησεν καὶ οὐκ ἠρνήσατο, καὶ ὡμολόγησεν ὅτι Ἐγὼ οὐκ εἰμὶ ὁ Χριστός.</p> <p>v.21: καὶ ἠρώτησαν αὐτόν, Τί οὖν; Σὺ Ἠλίας εἶ; καὶ λέγει, Οὐκ εἰμὶ. Ὁ προφήτης εἶ σύ; καὶ ἀπεκρίθη, Οὔ.</p> <p>v.22: εἶπαν οὖν αὐτῷ, Τίς εἶ; ἵνα ἀποκρισὶν δῶμεν τοῖς πέμψασιν ἡμᾶς· τί λέγεις περὶ σεαυτοῦ;</p> <p>v.23: ἔφη, Ἐγὼ φωνὴ βοῶντος ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, Εὐθύνατε τὴν ὁδὸν κυρίου, καθὼς εἶπεν Ἡσαΐας ὁ προφήτης.</p> <p>v.24: Καὶ ἀπεσταλμένοι ἦσαν ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων.</p> <p>v.25: καὶ ἠρώτησαν αὐτόν καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῷ, Τί οὖν βαπτίζεις εἰ σὺ οὐκ εἶ ὁ Χριστὸς οὐδὲ Ἠλίας οὐδὲ ὁ προφήτης;</p> <p>v.26: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰωάννης λέγων, Ἐγὼ βαπτίζω ἐν ὕδατι· μέσος ὑμῶν ἕστηκεν ὃν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε,</p> <p>v.27: ὁ ὀπίσω μου ἐρχόμενος, οὗ οὐκ εἰμὶ [ἐγὼ] ἄξιος ἵνα λύσω αὐτοῦ τὸν ἱμάντα τοῦ ὑποδήματος.</p> <p>v.28: Ταῦτα ἐν Βηθανίᾳ ἐγένετο πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, ὅπου ἦν ὁ Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων.</p>	<p>(1) The slot has ten utterance units: five are of the Jews (vv. 19b, 21a, 21c, 22, 25) and five of John the Baptist (vv. 20b, 21b, 21d, 23, 26-27);</p> <p>(2) While Jews interact only in a question format (vv. 19b, 21a, 21c, 22, 25), John the Baptist reveals 'what he is not' (Ἐγὼ οὐκ εἰμὶ, Οὐκ εἰμὶ, Οὔ; vv. 20b, 21b, 21d) and 'what he is' (Ἐγὼ sayings; vv. 23, 26);</p> <p>(3) While the Jewish quests are concerned about the identity of the Messiah, John's final response (vv. 26-27) is pointing toward their lack of knowledge;</p> <p>(4) The dialogue is interwoven in narrative: a narrative with intent (vv. 19a, 24, 28) and the formula narratives (vv. 20a, 21a, 21b, 21d, 22a, 23a, 25a, 26a).</p>

Table 2: The dialogue of 1:19-28 within the narrative framework (The utterance units are highlighted and the narrative is put in normal)

The fifth question of the Jews focuses on the activity of John (especially of his baptism; v. 25): why is John baptizing if he is neither the Messiah nor Elijah nor the prophet? Their question implies that John's activity of witnessing convinced them that he is neither the Messiah nor Elijah nor the prophet (vv. 20-23),³³⁹ but still they continue in their ignorance about his identity.³⁴⁰ John testifies that: *first*, he baptizes with water (v. 26); *second*, among the people one 'unknown' figure is standing, the one coming after him (vv. 26b-27a); and *third*, he is unworthy to untie the thong of

³³⁷ Hendriksen (1961: 1: 97) states that, "When questioned, the Baptist answers that he is neither the Messiah nor the forerunner whom the Jews expected (namely, Elijah in person) nor the prophet of Deut 18:15-18. He identifies himself with the voice shouting in the desert, to which Isa 40:3 refers".

³³⁸ Hendriksen (1961: 1: 95; cf. Menken, 1996: 21-35) says that, "his quotation from Isaiah serves a twofold purpose: it indicates who the Baptist is, being a reply to the question that had been asked; and it also amounts to an earnest invitation to repent". Kennedy (1984: 14) considers Old Testament quotations as "external" evidence in the sense that it is not a creation of the mind of the speaker. He says further, "though he has chosen and utilised it and may sometimes build a logical argument upon it".

³³⁹ Köstenberger (1999: 66) describes the passage in detail by telling that John the Baptist was not "the Christ" (1:20, 23, 25; cf. Isa 40:3; Mark 1:3), not "Elijah" (1:21, 25; cf. 2 Kings 2:11; Mal 4:5; Matthew 11:14; 17:10-13; Luke 1:17), and not "the Prophet" (1:21, 25; cf. Deut 18:15, 18).

³⁴⁰ The unknowing nature of the Jews is a continuous phenomenon within the text. See Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 29-33; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 23-4; Barrett, 1978: 170-5.

his sandal (v. 27b; cf. Drewermann, 2003: 66-83; see Table 2).³⁴¹ John the Baptist's confessions and his activity of baptism are interwoven together in the slot in order to present his person of religiosity and mission. His messianic affirmations and declaration of Jesus as the one who comes after him (by quoting Isa 40:3; see v. 23) reveal that the character of John is submissive to the one who comes after him.³⁴² John compares his baptism with Jesus' baptism: "I baptize with water" (Ἐγὼ βαπτίζω ἐν ὕδατι) and "[Jesus is the] one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit" (βαπτίζων ἐν πνεύματι ἁγίῳ).³⁴³ The dialogue at 1:19-28 reveals that John is the forerunner of Jesus and Jesus is indeed the Messiah (cf. Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.387). This central motif of the dialogue³⁴⁴ is further explained by the help of narratives.³⁴⁵ The dialogue section consists of a question and answer exchange between the interlocutors. Kelly and Moloney (2003: 62) state: "The narrative moves in a kind of *theologia negativa*. John vigorously rejects any effort to place him onto him either a messianic or prophetic role". The inter-textual utterance placed at the beginning of the slot (v. 23) shifts the focus of discussion from the identity of John the Baptist (vv. 19b-20a) to his action (vv. 24-7).³⁴⁶ While the narrator's role is obvious in vv. 19a, 24, and 28,³⁴⁷ the narrator is used as a formula in order to introduce utterance units at vv. 19b, 20a, 21a, 21b, 21c, 22, 25a, and 26a (see Table 2). The narrator concludes the slot by providing details about the setting of the narrative (v. 28).³⁴⁸

After analysing the content, now let us see how the form of the slot works. The syntactic³⁴⁹ of the slot can be viewed from its structural dynamics and the stylistic devices.³⁵⁰ The dialogue as a whole maintains an "A-to-B and B-to-A" format which further provides dramatic structure.

³⁴¹ Brant (2011: 48) says that, "Honor and shame is scripted on the body: the head is the point of honor; the feet are the sign of shame or humility".

³⁴² Morris (1995: 124) says that, "John selects the very task that the rabbinic saying stresses as too menial for a disciple, and declares himself unworthy to perform it. He is unworthy of the most menial of tasks for the one who comes after him". See Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Carson, 1991: 141-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 24; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Dodd, 1963: 251-78; Painter, 1993: 169-73.

³⁴³ Hendriksen (1961: 1: 96) opines that, "By saying, 'I baptize with water', John points out that there is, at present, a vast difference between what he is doing and what the Messiah will do".

³⁴⁴ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 61) opines that the actual gospel story begins in 1:19. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Louw and Nida, 1980: 29-30; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4.

³⁴⁵ Carey and Snodgrass (1999: 94) define 'narrative' as "a style that expresses a long, involved plot or story or a series of related events, either true (episode, vignette, travelogue, memoir, autobiography, biography) or fictional (fable, story, epic, legend, novel)". The dialogue of the first slot (vv. 19b-27) is strategically inserted between the narrator's notes (v. 19a and v. 28).

³⁴⁶ Morris (1995: 123) observes that, "on the basis of certain Old Testament passages some people expected that the Messiah would be baptizing when the messianic age dawned (Eze 36:25; Zech 13:1)". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 35; Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Carson, 1991: 141-2.

³⁴⁷ See the details about vv. 19, 24 and 28 in Ridderbos (1987/1997: 61-63, 66, and 68). Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4.

³⁴⁸ Brant (2011: 48) says that, "John brings this episode (we consider 'this slot') to a close by giving its geographical location: This happened in Bethany, across the Jordan, where John was baptizing (1:28)". See Newman and Nida, 1980: 35; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Carson, 1991: 146-7; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4.

³⁴⁹ Here, the expression *syntactics* is used with a broader sense. It analyses the narrative structure and dynamics and the usage of the stylistic devices within the narrative. Cf. Du Toit, 2009: 272-5.

³⁵⁰ In my study, I progress with the preconception that semantics and syntactics are closely connected to one another and also understand that content and form are contributive to one another.

conversational characteristics (see Diagram 2).³⁵¹ The dialogue exists as an interactive communication between the two parties. It is framed within a narratorial *inclusion*³⁵² between “*this* is the testimony of John” (v. 19a; αὕτη ἐστὶν ἡ μαρτυρία τοῦ Ἰωάννου) and “*this* took place in Bethany” (v. 28; ταῦτα ἐν Βηθανίᾳ ἐγένετο). The overall structure of the pericope is framed also by ironical³⁵³ techniques and a chiasm.³⁵⁴ The ironical techniques work primarily in two ways. *First*, as Stibbe (1993: 33; cf. Duke, 1985: 111; Michaels, 1984/1989: 28-36) comments, “The statement, ‘among you stands one you do not know’, plays on the foundational irony in the gospel which has to do with the failure of recognition” (see 1:26, cf. 1: 10).³⁵⁵ *Second*, also John the Baptist as the one *sent* (ἀπεσταλμένος, 1:6) from God in the prologue ironically contrasts with the priests, Levites, and Pharisees *sent* (ἀπέστειλαν, 1:19; cf. 1:24) from the Jews (see Stibbe, 1993: 33; Michaels, 1984/1989: 28-36).³⁵⁶

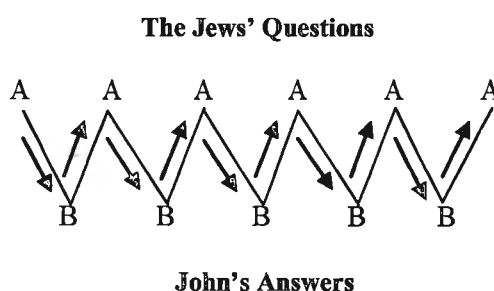


Diagram 2: The dialogic interaction between John the Baptist and the Jews

The Jewish urgency upon John the Baptist to reveal his identity is obvious through the usage of the verbs, ἐρωτήσωσιν and ἠρώτησαν (vv. 19 and 25). Though the dialogue is described as a *testimonial* (ἡ μαρτυρία τοῦ Ἰωάννου, v. 19), its language develops *confessionally* as John's

³⁵¹ In v. 19, “with its sequence of three events”, Culpepper (1983: 54; cf. Genette, 1980: 36) says, “it is clear that the story order was (B) sending, (C) asking, (A) testifying. Although very simple, this example illustrates how anachronies occur in narrative order”.

³⁵² Resseguie (2005: 57) defines inclusions as “words, phrases, or concepts that bracket narratives or larger units such as a section of a book or even an entire book. Inclusions are framing devices that identify beginnings and endings of narratives, or underscore prominent themes and concepts of a story”.

³⁵³ Baldick (1990: 114; see Resseguie, 2005: 67-8) defines irony as “a subtly humorous perception of inconsistency, in which an apparently straightforward statement or event is undermined by its context so as to give it a very different significance”. Carey and Snodgrass (1999: 80) define it as “an implied discrepancy between what is said or done and what is meant”.

³⁵⁴ Resseguie (2005: 58-9; cf. Baldick, 1990: 34; Stibbe, 1993: 31) says that, “The word chiasm is derived from the Greek letter chi (written X), which symbolises the crossover pattern of words, phrases, clauses, or ideas that are repeated in reverse order”. Stibbe (1993: 31) also calls it a kind of “inverted parallelism”.

³⁵⁵ Brant (2004: 51; see the section on ‘Anagnōrisis’, 50-7; cf. Culpepper, 1998: 71) defines *anagnōrisis* as follows: “Recognition is a cognitive act and therefore something private. In a narrative, an omniscient narrator can reveal what occurs in the character's head”. By making use of this literary device, the narrator establishes the intra-textual dialogue between the prologue and the first narrative of the gospel (cf. 1:10; 26). The dramatic feature of analepsis and prolepsis, both backward with the prologue and forward with the succeeding monologue, is one of the striking elements in the dialogue section. See Hendriksen, 1961: 1: 96-7; Morris, 1995: 123-4.

³⁵⁶ It is also noticeable that the internal dialogical structure of the pericope is caricatured through a *chiasm*. While vv. 19-20 and 26-28 introduces the first pair of synonymous narration, vv. 21-22 and 24-25 follow the same trend. The central section (v. 23) of the pericope is a quoting from Isa 40:3, the Baptist as the voice in the desert. The narrator's skill of using irony as a means for maintaining the intra-textual dialogue is commendable (see Stibbe, 1993: 33).

responses are expressed as ὁμολόγησεν (twice in v. 20).³⁵⁷ The formulaic verbs used in or introduce the utterance units are λέγει (v. 21), ἀπεκρίθη (v. 21, 26) and ἔφη (v. 23). The re questions which make use of the interrogative words τίς (vv. 19 and 22) and τί (vv. 21, 2 25) show the aggressive nature of the opponents.³⁵⁸ All the questions of the Jews are rooted i lack of knowledge about John's personal identity and his activity (see Table 3).³⁵⁹

The narrator uses a *question-and-answer* sequence³⁶⁰ in dialogue form as an overarching t order to reveal the superiority of Jesus over against John the Baptist (cf. Drewermann, 20(83). Neyrey (1998: 657-81; cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 28-36)³⁶¹ opines, "These questions : requests for information but are intended to expose and belittle John". Jewish questions a confessional answers of John the Baptist exemplify the intention of the narrator behi pericope; that to say Jesus is the Messiah, not John the Baptist.

Utterance	Form	Content
Priests and Levites	Identity question (general), ³⁶² statement of ignorance ³⁶³	Question about the identity of John the
John the Baptist	Confession, negation ³⁶⁴ of messiahship	John is not the Messiah
Priests and Levites	Identity question (specific), ³⁶⁵ statement of unknowing	Identity of John as Elijah
John the Baptist	Negation	John is not Elijah
Priests and Levites	Identity question (specific), statement of unknowing	Identity of John as the prophet
John the Baptist	Negation	John is not the prophet
Priests and Levites	Identity question (about personal testimony), statement of unknowing	Identity of John is questioned in order to an answer of his own
John the Baptist	Prophecy fulfillment, call for praxis ³⁶⁶	John is the voice of one crying out in the wilderness; he says to make straight the of the Lord
Priests and Levites	Activity question, statement of unknowing	Why John is baptizing if he is neither th Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet
John the Baptist	Activity answer, a comparison ³⁶⁷	John baptizes with water; among the pe

³⁵⁷ See more details in Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 61-2. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Newm Nida, 1980: 29-30; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 21-3; Painter, 1993: 169-73; 1991: 141-2; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4.

³⁵⁸ According to Painter (1991: 38), "The witness of John (1:19) was given in response to an inquiry. Indeed, is an inquiry story similar in function to . . . Luke 3:10-11, 12-13, 14. Like those stories it tends to expre though it is formally an inquiry story". Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Newman and Nida, 1 34; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 21-4; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Barrett, 1978: 170.

³⁵⁹ Painter (1991: 38-39) considers John 1:19-29 as two quest stories, vv. 19-23 and vv. 24-29.

³⁶⁰ See the descriptions about Socratic questions and assumptions in Santas, 1979: 59-96.

³⁶¹ Painter (1993: 170) emphasises the distinctive use of quest stories in John from the Synoptic Gospels. He c the Lukan passage at 3:4-15 and sees the similarities and dissimilarities with the Johannine passage here. In h Painter (1991: 33) says that, "The Johannine quest stories are best seen in relation to the synoptic pronou stories which are similar to the chreiai of the Graeco-Roman biographies and rhetorical texts". Painter (198 concerned with two types of pronouncement stories in John, 'quest' story and 'rejection' story. Cf. Ma Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Painter, 1993: 169-73.

³⁶² The question of the priests/Levites is general in nature as it does not provide an alternative for their interloc

³⁶³ The device, *lack of knowledge*, is a continuous phenomenon as the priests and the Levites raise several q Their questions are revelatory as they reveal their unknowing condition.

³⁶⁴ While the priests and the Levites continue in asking questions, John continues in giving negative responses.

³⁶⁵ The question of the priests/Levites is specific as it provides an alternative, i.e., Elijah, for their interlocutor.

³⁶⁶ The inter-textual passage here has interpretative role as it gives a clarion call for the interlocutors of John.

	one 'unknown' figure is standing, the one coming after John; John is unworthy to untie the thong of his sandal
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Table 3: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 1:19-28

A responsive style is maintained in the dialogue as John answers the questions of the Jews one by one. The key point of the section is the direct quotation from Isa 40:3 (cf. 1:23). By quoting from the OT, the narrator is trying to establish the fulfillment aspect of a prophetic promise.³⁶⁸ The Jews' questions develop as follows: questions 1, 2, and 3 are equal in length (see vv. 19b-21); and questions 4 and 5 (see vv. 22 and 25) are equal in length but lengthier than questions 1, 2, and 3 (vv. 19b-21; cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 28-36; see Diagram 3). John's answers develop as follows: the first three answers are "negative", but shortening in length one after another (see vv. 20b-21); the fourth answer is a promise-to-fulfillment sequential, "positive" and directional, and lengthier than the previous three (see v. 23); and the last answer is "positive" and directional, and the lengthiest (see vv. 26-27).³⁶⁹

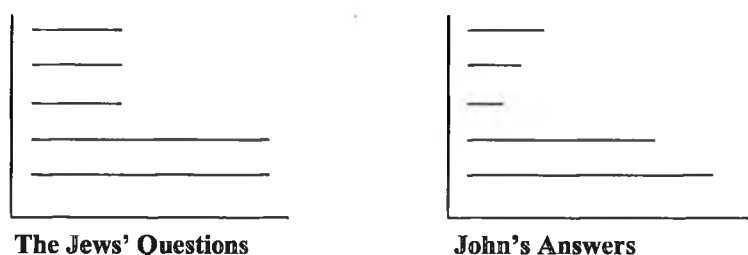


Diagram 3: The length of Jewish questions and John's answers

The prophetic saying from Isaiah (see v. 23) helps the plot development³⁷⁰ within the first slot of the episode (see Diagram 3). Painter (1993: 175) considers 1: 19-23 and 1:24-27 as doublet passages.³⁷¹ In John's talk and activity of baptism he slowly reveals himself and his status in relation to Jesus, and finally, discloses the identity of "one stands among you whom you do not

³⁶⁷ John the Baptist compares himself with Jesus.

³⁶⁸ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 66) says that, "John identifies himself, and in his self-identification, against the background of the great salvation motif of prophesy (cf. Isa 40:1-3) and over against Israel's spiritual leaders, the light unmistakably falls on the desperate spiritual condition of the people under that leadership". Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Newman and Nida, 1980: 32-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 23.

³⁶⁹ Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 34-5; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 24; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Carson, 1991: 146; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Blomberg, 2001: 75-7.

³⁷⁰ Ricoeur (1985: 2: 8; cf. Brooks, 1984: 3-5) says, "Plot was first defined, on the most formal level, as an integrating dynamism that draws a unified and complete story from a variety of incidents, in other words, that transforms this variety into a unified and complete story". Baldick (1990: 170) defines plot as "the pattern of events and situations in a narrative or dramatic work, as selected and arranged both to emphasise relationships—usually of cause and effect—between incidents and to elicit a particular kind of interest in the reader or audience, such as surprise or suspense". In John 1:19-28, a shift of emphasis happens from v. 23. While in the previous part (vv. 19-22) the responses of John are mild and "negative", in the latter part (vv. 23-28) his responses are "fulfillment-oriented" and "positive". Moreover, while maintaining suspense all throughout the slot, the introduction of Jesus as the Messiah leads the readers to a surprising attitude.

³⁷¹ Painter (1993: 175) says that, "These double scenes have been created by the evangelist. While they make use of the common material, there is a different focus in each scene". In 1:19-27, as Painter observes, the focus moves from the question (a) "Who are you?" (19-23) to (b) "Why do you baptize?" (24-27).

know". As discussed above, several sub-forms and literary devices overlap one another with question-and-answer dialogue.

Now, let us analyse the functional features of the slot. The inter-relation of the content and form of the dialogue contributes toward the functional or pragmatic level of the text.³⁷³ While semantic and syntactic aspects direct the reader toward the content and form respectively and literary dynamics within the text, the pragmatic aspects direct her/him toward the function of the persuasive aspects of the text (cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 28-36).³⁷⁴ The use of the dialogue instead of full narratives and the incorporation of literary devices within dialogues, i.e., irony, chiasm, and intertextuality, provide hermeneutical stimulus for the reader. In the narrator-and-reader dialogue, the literary features function rhetorically and performatively.³⁷⁵ Within the textual horizon, the dialogue develops between an individual [John the Baptist] and a group of people [the Jewish emissaries].³⁷⁶ The use of dialogue foregrounds the characters and their discourse; this in turn persuades the reader and cultivates positive power in her/him (cf. Michaels, 1966: 42-54; Drewermann, 2003: 66-83).

The narrator's presentation of the slot is dramatic and symbolic in the following ways: *first*, the dialogue works within the narrative section (vv. 19-28) and falls into a monologue (vv. 29-30). The triple negations of John, i.e., οὐκ (in v. 20), οὐκ (v. 21), and οὐ (v. 21), in the dialogue reveals the fact that he is not the Messiah;³⁷⁷ *second*, the Jews come to John in order to ask whether he is the Messiah; but John as a *sign figure* stands between the Jews and Jesus as the

³⁷² Kennedy (1984: 10; cf. Lausberg, 1960) is of the opinion that one could not expect to be persuasive unless there was some overlap between the content and form of what he said and the expectations of his audience. By applying Aristotelian three modes of artistic proof (*ethos*, *pathos*, and *logos*; 1.2.1356a), Kennedy (1984: 15) looks at the function of the NT. Kennedy (1984:15) explains the three modes of artistic proof as follows: "Ethos means 'character' and may be defined as the credibility that the author or speaker is able to establish in his work . . . Pathos inheres in the audience and may be defined as the emotional reactions the hearers undergo as the orator 'plays upon their feelings' . . . Logos refers to the logical argument found within the discourse".

³⁷³ The semiotic principle, called pragmatics, is distinct from semantics and syntactic. It is characterized as the 'relations between signs and sign users' (cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 26). In our analysis, we employ the term 'pragmatics' in order to refer to the persuasive aspects of the dialogue texts. Moreover, we use the terms 'function' and 'pragmatics' interchangeably as the linguistic and literary signs are persuasive in style and function in the reader dialogic in function.

³⁷⁴ Resseguie (2005: 41) says that, "Rhetoric is the art of persuasion. It breathes life into a narrative and influences how we feel and think about what the author says. Rhetoric is sometimes thought to be a flourish of word or an imaginative turn of phrase that a speaker or writer uses to capture our attention". Kennedy (1984: 3; see Lausberg, 1960) on the other hand defines, 'rhetoric' as "that quality in discourse by which a speaker or writer accomplishes his purposes". The author's accomplishments and the reader's inspiration can be considered as elements in a narrator-reader dialogue.

³⁷⁵ According to Baldick (1990: 164; cf. Austin, 1962), performative is "a kind of utterance that performs the deed to which it refers (e.g., I promise to come), instead of describing some state of affairs". For details about the use of 'performative language' in John's Gospel, refer to Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67.

³⁷⁶ According to Kumar (2003: 13), "in Group Communication, detection and pretence cannot be determined. In group communication, 'the larger the group the less personal and intimate is the possibility of exchange. In fact, as the group grows in size communication tends to become more and more of a monologue, for participation becomes problematic" (see Kumar, 2003: 13).

³⁷⁷ See Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Carson, 1991: 141-4; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 21-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 29-34.

them that he is neither the Messiah nor Elijah nor the prophet;³⁷⁸ *third*, the narrator presents the Jews at the beginning as a suspicious community through their question in v. 19b (Σὺ τίς εἶ;), the suspicion develops as a conflict in the form of a dialogue between themselves and John the Baptist, and finally, John's dialogue with them turns their attention toward a surprise by hearing about another personality [i.e., Jesus]; *fourth*, the pericope provides a basis for the dialogical conflict that is running all through the gospel: the dualistic tension between those who are *sent* from above and those who are *sent* from below; and *fifth*, by placing the OT scripture at the center of the dialogue, the narrator attempts to emphasise the 'fulfillment' aspect of the story.³⁷⁹ The figures like Messiah, Elijah and the Prophet are central in the dialogic conflict as their names appear more than once in this little piece of writing. These features open up a horizon for the implied reader³⁸⁰ to view the snippet as a rhetorical piece functioning within the larger framework of the text (cf. Brodie, 1993: 149-51; Keener, 2003: 1: 437-51).

The presence of the dialogical materials in the pericope makes the narrative vibrant for the reader, transforms the narrative from a monotonous treatise, and directs it from passive voice to active voice. The narrator actualises this by placing the dialogue in its original oral format.³⁸¹ The dialogue clears up the confusion of the Jews, reveals the identity of the important characters of the larger story [i.e., Jesus and the Jews], recognises the real protagonist [i.e., Jesus], and leads the reader forward with more expectation.³⁸² In ancient rhetoric, "questions" were more than statements and they were maintained in quest form, for they provide points for dispute, quarrel, discussion, and the like; they frequently function as topics for debate, controversy, difficulties, quarrels, and puzzles.³⁸³ On the basis of this classical rhetorical theory, the question-and-answer exchange in John 1:19-28 can be considered as a communicative device in order to reveal the role and status of the interlocutors (see Michaels, 1984/1989: 28-36; Keener, 2003: 1: 437-51).³⁸⁴ John's dialogue here reveals some of the key character aspects, like the identities of the interlocutors [i.e., both John the Baptist and the Jews], the inquisitive character of the Jews, John's

³⁷⁸ Along with the interlocutors, the readers of the gospel are also brought to this understanding. Cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 62-3.

³⁷⁹ The inter-textual character of the pericope is obvious through the appearance of the quoting and figures from the OT. See Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 32-3; Carson, 1991: 143-4; Painter, 1993: 169-73.

³⁸⁰ According to Van der Watt (2009: 88; cf. Chatman, 1978: 147-61), "The implied reader as inner-textual construct knows nothing at the beginning of the narrative, but is indeed constructed as the narrative develops. As the narrative unfolds, the implied reader is informed by everything the narrative has to offer and the knowledge of the implied reader increases proportionally". In the case of John 1:19-28, the implied narrator begin to gather information about the identities of the interlocutors, especially from their talk-units. This basic knowledge will help her/him to gather more information in the process of reading the succeeding slots and episodes.

³⁸¹ While the narrative sections are usually put in the past tense format, the dialogue sections are put in the present tense. The present tense format of the dialogue creates more spaces for narrator-reader communication than the narratives in the past-tense format. Cf. Chatman, 1978: 63.

³⁸² It clears up perplexities about the identity of John the Baptist, identifies the role of Jesus, John the Baptist and the emissaries from Jerusalem, and persuades the reader for further reflection and action.

³⁸³ Aggressive questions and answers occur also in philosophy. Socrates, for example, asked two types of questions. As a midwife, he asked educating questions to give birth to the truth already existing in the minds of interlocutors. But he also asked hostile questions to sophists to expose their folly and pretension (see Neyrey, 2007: 49; Santas, 1979: 57-180; Majercik, 1992: 185-6).

³⁸⁴ See Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Neyrey, 2007: 49; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 21-4; Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Carson, 1991: 141-7; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8.

status in comparison to Jesus, and the fulfillment of the scripture.³⁸⁵ The narrator here introduces the main interlocutors of the larger story, intertwines dialogue with a religious activity [baptism], makes the slot reader-friendly by way of providing a dialogical platform, shifts the focus from John the Baptist to Jesus (i.e., *backgrounding* of John and *foregrounding* of Jesus; cf. T 1999: 29-37; Brant, 2011: 49), and *performs* the story artistically before the reader (cf. T 1993: 149-51). The narrator, thus, rhetorically presents a dialogue-driven slot at the outset of BS.³⁸⁶ In sum, the first slot ushers in the content of the messianic identity of Jesus and the John the Baptist as the witness. The overall subject matter is framed in a *question-and-answer* dialogue with revelatory intentions. The content and form are used to invite the reader toward the Messiah.

1.2.2. Slot Two (1:29-34)

The second slot (1:29-34) begins with a formulaic narratorial note that introduces Jesus as a “coming on” character (v. 29a).³⁸⁷ The slot as a whole develops and ends in the form of a monologue (vv. 29b-34; cf. Schmidt, 2000: 45-6; Keener, 2003: 1: 451-65).³⁸⁸ As a continuation of his previous day’s talk,³⁸⁹ on ‘the next day’ (v. 29) John the Baptist witnesses about Jesus (see Table 4). The expression τῇ ἐπαύριον³⁹¹ marks a transition from the previous day’s dialogue to the latter monologue. According to Moloney (1998: 53; cf. Brown, 1966: 55-71), “This day is dominated by John the Baptist, who continues to give witness to Jesus The only other character present to the narrative is Jesus who is ‘coming toward’ the Baptist. Jesus plays no active role; he acts as the catalyst that triggers the witness of vv. 29-34”. John the Baptist’s point of view³⁹⁰ Jesus is reported as a two-part monologue (vv. 29b-31 and vv. 32b-4; cf. Van Hartingsveldt

³⁸⁵ See Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Carson, 1991: 143-4; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 23-4; Painter, 1969: 169-73; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Kanagaraj, 2005: 73-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 32-3.

³⁸⁶ These conspicuous characteristic features in the dialogue may help the reader to comprehend the subsequent discussions of the gospel with more clarity and depth.

³⁸⁷ Though Jesus is the central figure of the larger story, in the current slot he physically appears in the background. But in John’s monologue Jesus’ character is foregrounded from the point of view of John the Baptist.

³⁸⁸ For more details about the differences between a dialogue and a monologue, refer to Chatman, 1978: 17; Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Dodd, 1963: 269-76; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80.

³⁸⁹ Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 24-6; Carson, 1991: 147; Stibbe, 1993: 34-6; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80; Dodd, 1963: 276; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53; Barrett, 1978: 175-6.

³⁹⁰ As the monologue occurred on “the next day”, it forms a new setting and hence a slot (see Table 4) within the larger episode. Bernard (1929: 43) opines that, “There is no mention of any conversation between Him [i.e., Jesus] and John [i.e., Baptist] on this occasion; but John, as He passes, designates Him publicly as the Christ”.

³⁹¹ Bernard (1929: 42; cf. Brant, 2004: 38) says that, “We now come to the second day of this spiritual diary (John 1:19). One of the characteristics of the Fourth Gospel is the precision with which the author gives dates”. Wallace (1986: 232) opines that, “Every instance of the adverb ἐπαύριον in the NT occurs with a feminine dat. article (cf. Matthew 27:62; John 1:29; Acts 21:8). Although the adverb itself simply means ‘following, next’, the usage in each time implies the noun ἡμέρα (hence, the article is feminine) and suggests that the event took place at a certain time (hence, the article is dat.)”.

³⁹² Here John the Baptist’s point of view is merged within the extended narratorial point of view. As the narrator presents John the Baptist with a positive outlook, it is difficult to distinguish between the two points of view. For more about “point of view”, refer to Resseguie, 2005: 167-96; Falk, 1971: 43.

23-8; Burge, 1987: 50-61). The division of the section is outlined on the basis of the two formulaic narratorial notes (vv. 29a and 32a).³⁹³

John 1:29-34	Overview
<p>v. 29: Τῇ ἐπαύριον βλέπει τὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐρχόμενον πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ λέγει, Ἴδε ὁ ἀμνὸς τοῦ θεοῦ ὁ αἴρων τὴν ἁμαρτίαν τοῦ κόσμου.</p> <p>v.30: οὗτός ἐστιν ὑπὲρ οὗ ἐγὼ εἶπον, Ὅπισω μου ἔρχεται ἄνθρωπος ἔμπροσθέν μου γέγονεν, ὅτι πρῶτός μου ἦν.</p> <p>v.31: καὶ γὰρ οὐκ ᾔδειν αὐτόν, ἀλλ' ἵνα φανερωθῇ τῷ Ἰσραὴλ διὰ τοῦτο ἦλθον ἐγὼ ἐν ὕδατι βαπτίζων.</p> <p>v.32: Καὶ ἑμαρτύρησεν Ἰωάννης λέγων ὅτι Τεθέσμαι τὸ πνεῦμα καταβαῖνον ὡς περιστερὰν ἐξ οὐρανοῦ καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐπ' αὐτόν.</p> <p>v.33: καὶ γὰρ οὐκ ᾔδειν αὐτόν, ἀλλ' ὁ πέμψας με βαπτίζειν ἐν ὕδατι ἐκεῖνός μοι εἶπεν, Ἐφ' ὃν ἂν ἴδῃς τὸ πνεῦμα καταβαῖνον καὶ μένον ἐπ' αὐτόν, οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ βαπτίζων ἐν πνεύματι ἁγίῳ.</p> <p>v.34: καὶ γὰρ ἐώρακα καὶ μεμαρτύρηκα ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ.</p>	<p>(1) The slot exists in the form of a monologue at two levels (see vv. 29b-31 and vv. 32b-34);</p> <p>(2) The monologue is introduced by the help of two narratorial formulas: (a) Τῇ ἐπαύριον βλέπει τὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐρχόμενον πρὸς αὐτόν καὶ λέγει (v. 29a); and (b) Καὶ ἑμαρτύρησεν Ἰωάννης λέγων ὅτι (v. 32a);</p> <p>(3) The plot development of the episode is smooth as the anaphoric expression Τῇ ἐπαύριον connects the latter monologue section (i.e., vv. 29-34) with the previous dialogue section (i.e., vv. 19-28).</p>

Table 4: The monologue of 1:29-34

The content of the talk can be determined on the basis of the two parts: *first*, John's *declaration* about the Lamb of God³⁹⁴ (see v. 29a; Gk. λέγει); and *second*, his *witness* about the Son of God (see v. 32a; Gk. ἑμαρτύρησεν... λέγων).³⁹⁵ Painter (1993: 176) says, "Given that no audience is specified on the second day the focus falls on the content of the witness and it is here that the fullest form of the words is given". In the *declarative* section (vv. 29b-31) he points out the following things: *first*, Jesus is the Lamb of God³⁹⁶ who takes away the sin of the world (*a directive statement*,³⁹⁷ v. 29b);³⁹⁸ *second*, "This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me'" (*a memory statement*,³⁹⁹ v. 30);⁴⁰⁰ and *third*, "I

³⁹³ Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 34-6; Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Dodd, 1963: 269-76; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80.

³⁹⁴ Wallace (1996: 224) says that, "John's description of Jesus may be regarded as monadic as long as the gen. 'of God' is considered part of the formula, for it is used of Jesus alone in the Bible". The phrase "Lamb of God" is found in the NT only in the Gospel of John (in two occurrences, 1:29 and 1:36; cf. Marshall, 1992: 432).

³⁹⁵ For more details about the phrase "Son of God", refer to Bauer, 1992: 769-75.

³⁹⁶ Brown (1966: 59; cf. Grigsby, 1982: 54, 60) observes that, "... there is a vocabulary difference in these references to 'lamb': in John 1:29 the word is *amnos*, while in Revelation the apocalyptic lamb is *arnion*. However, while John and Revelation are works of the Johannine school, they frequently reflect differences of vocabulary—a sign that they were written by different hands".

³⁹⁷ The expression Ἴδε (v. 29b) is used here in order to give force to the direction. Wallace (1996: 60) observes that, "In NT usage, Ἴδε and Ἰδοὺ are customarily followed by a nom. These were originally verb forms (the active and middle aorist imperatives of ὁράω respectively) and should, according to classical usage, take an accusative. But in Koine Greek, and especially the NT, they normally function like mere interjections".

³⁹⁸ Gk. Ἴδε ὁ ἀμνὸς τοῦ θεοῦ ὁ αἴρων τὴν ἁμαρτίαν τοῦ κόσμου.

³⁹⁹ The expression οὗτός ἐστιν ὑπὲρ οὗ ἐγὼ εἶπον (v. 30a) takes the attention of interlocutors and readers toward previously occurred utterances of John. Wallace (1996: 455) says that, "Ancient writers and speakers, by and large, were not concerned about getting the words exact . . . This can easily be seen in the NT as well: note, for example, how various writers quote the OT, or how the synoptists record the sayings of Jesus, or even how John the Baptist is recorded as quoting himself (John 1:15, 30)".

⁴⁰⁰ Gk. οὗτός ἐστιν ὑπὲρ οὗ ἐγὼ εἶπον, Ὅπισω μου ἔρχεται ἄνθρωπος ὃς ἔμπροσθέν μου γέγονεν, ὅτι πρῶτός μου ἦν.

myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel" (*a statement about unknowing*, v. 31;⁴⁰¹ cf. Burge, 1987: 50-61).⁴⁰² His statement in the first section (v. 30b) states that his religious activity (baptism), coupled with his utterances, were for revelatory reasons (cf. v. 31). His *witness* section (vv. 32b-34) points to the following things: *first*, descending of the Spirit upon Jesus (*a witness statement*, v. 32b);⁴⁰³ *second*, John moves away from his unknowing to knowing through the utterance of the Father about the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus (*from unknowing to knowing*, v. 33);⁴⁰⁴ and *third*, "I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God" (*a revelatory utterance*, v. 34). Brant, 2011: 49-50; see Table 4).⁴⁰⁵ Semantically, the slot conveys the following message: Jesus is the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world;⁴⁰⁶ *second*, he ranks ahead of the Baptist; *third*, the purpose of John's arrival is to introduce Jesus to the world; *fourth*, John transferred from 'unknowing' to 'knowing' concerning Jesus; *fifth*, the one who sent John to baptize him to him about Jesus; *sixth*, Jesus is baptized by the Holy Spirit; and *seventh*, John personally saw and testified that Jesus is the Son of God.⁴⁰⁷ The content section (see vv. 29b-31 and 32-34) further reveals Jesus' identity as the Messiah with the help of messianic expressions (i.e., "Son of God", "one who comes after but existed before", "anointed one of God", and "Son of God").

In the monologue, the narrator uses literary forms and devices in order to catch the attention of the reader. The form of the dialogue-turned-monologue can be determined on the basis of the narrative syntactics (cf. Schmidt, 2000: 45-46). As Keener (2003: 451) says, "The 'next day' provides a transition to a new christological confession to John's disciples".⁴⁰⁹ The previous day's questions (cf. 1:19-22, 25) are answered in a different context in the monologue section (cf. 1:29-34). The monologue, thus, forms an explanation of the previous day's dialogue that reveals more

⁴⁰¹ John's utterance at the beginning (v. 31a; *καὶ γὰρ οὐκ ᾔδειν αὐτόν*) reveals his unknowing position. Duke (1987) says that, "in the Fourth Gospel the word *Israel* is always used in a deeper theological sense than may appear on the surface (cf. 1:31, 49; 12:31)—that, in fact, some readers of the Gospel know *Israel* to mean 'the true Israel' (the new people through Jesus Christ)".

⁴⁰² Gk. *καὶ γὰρ οὐκ ᾔδειν αὐτόν, ἀλλ' ἵνα φανερωθῇ τῷ Ἰσραὴλ διὰ τοῦτο ἦλθον ἐγὼ ἐν ὕδατι βαπτίζων*. K. Moloney (2003: 64) argue that, "A *docta ignorantia* has guided him to baptize in order that his hitherto unknowing might be revealed to Israel (1: 31b)".

⁴⁰³ Gk. *τεθέαμαι τὸ πνεῦμα καταβαῖνον ὡς περιστερὰν ἐξ οὐρανοῦ καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐπ' αὐτόν*.

⁴⁰⁴ Gk. *καὶ γὰρ οὐκ ᾔδειν αὐτόν, ἀλλ' ὁ πέμψας με βαπτίζειν ἐν ὕδατι ἐκεῖνός μοι εἶπεν, 'Ἐφ' ᾧ ἂν ἴδῃς τὸ πνεῦμα καταβαῖνον καὶ μένον ἐπ' αὐτόν, οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ βαπτίζων ἐν πνεύματι ἁγίῳ*. Cf. Brant, 2004: 113.

⁴⁰⁵ Gk. *καὶ γὰρ ἐώρακα καὶ μεμαρτύρηκα ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ*. Moloney (1998: 53; cf. Smith, 1999: 10) says that, "The information provided by the Prologue is further developed as the Baptist identified Jesus as the pre-existent one (v. 30; cf. vv. 1, 15), the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (v. 29), the one upon whom the Spirit descended (v. 32) in fulfillment of a divine promise (v. 33a), the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit (v. 33b), the Son of God (v. 34)". See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 24-6; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53; Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Dodd, 1963: 269-76; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80; Stibbe, 1993: 34-6.

⁴⁰⁶ Köstenberger (2004: 67; cf. Morris, 1995: 130) says that, "... 'God's lamb' will take away sin, presumably by means of a sacrificial, substitutionary death. The verb *αἴρω* (take away) has the sense of 'bearing off', 'getting off', or 'carrying away' (2:16; 5:8-12; 10:18; see Bultmann, 1971: 96), in association with the Hebrew *kpr*, which means 'to wipe away', the idea of sins being 'wiped away'".

⁴⁰⁷ The central message of the slot, as Moloney (1998: 53) says, is "Jesus is the Lamb of God and the Son of God, the one upon whom the Spirit remains and who baptizes with the Holy Spirit".

⁴⁰⁸ Cf. Brown, 1966: 55-71; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53; Dodd, 1963: 269-76; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80.

⁴⁰⁹ Although some ancient writers preferred disjunctive episodes, many connected events of various occasions were arranged in a chronological sequence that made them easier to follow (cf. Mark 1:21, 29). See Dodd, 1963: 269-76; Brown, 2001: 77-80; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53; Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 24-6.

Jesus' identity (cf. Schmidt, 2000: 45-46; Van Hartingsveld, 1980: 23-28).⁴¹⁰ The use of the expression $\tau\eta\ \epsilon\pi\alpha\rho\upsilon\rho\iota\omicron\nu$ is a key element that helps for the "revelatory plot development" of the story (see Chatman, 1978: 48; cf. Moore, 1989: 14-15).⁴¹¹ A reader approaching the monologue in isolation may find difficulty in understanding it apart from the dialogue (cf. Brown, 1966: 55-71; Drewermann, 2003: 66-83). The A-to-B dialogue in the first slot becomes a B-factor in the second slot (see Diagram 4).

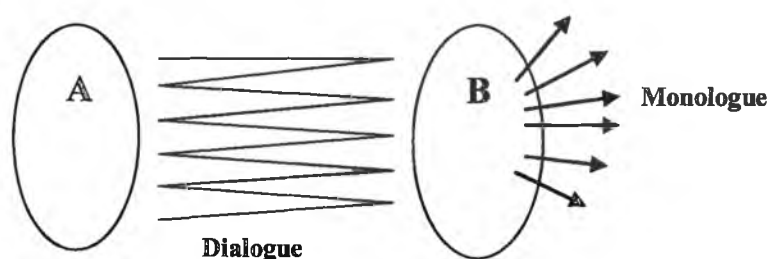


Diagram 4: Plot development from a dialogue to a monologue

The connection between the dialogue and the monologue can be established by noting the existence of a larger *inclusion*, "this is the *testimony* of John" (1:19) and "I have *testified* that . . ." (1:34); thus the narrator makes salient now the earlier remark in the prologue that "John came for *testimony*" (1:7-8).⁴¹² An *inclusion within the inclusion* is formed by placing two christological titles, *Lamb of God* (v. 29; $\delta\ \lambda\alpha\mu\beta\omicron\varsigma\ \tau\omicron\upsilon\ \theta\epsilon\omicron\upsilon$)⁴¹³ and *Son of God* (v. 34; $\delta\ \upsilon\iota\omicron\varsigma\ \tau\omicron\upsilon\ \theta\epsilon\omicron\upsilon$) at the beginning and at the end of the monologue (cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 65; Quast, 1991/1996: 15-16). Painter (1993: 175; cf. Talbert, 1992: 81) opines that, "Just as 1:19-23 has a doublet in 1:24-27, so 1:29-31 has 1:32-34". While *declaration* and *witness* are the larger forms in the monologue, the sub-forms like *directive utterance*, *memory statement*, *statement about unknowing*, *witness statement*, and *revelation* support the development of the slot.⁴¹⁴

Whether John the Baptist's words in the monologue section are a reproduction of his previous day's utterances with the Jews or the talk altogether is a recapitulation of other previously occurring dialogues? This is one of the important issues to be dealt with.⁴¹⁵ A few things have to be pointed out here: *first*, the expression $\text{Ἰδὲ ὁ ἄμνός τοῦ θεοῦ}$ is firstly introduced in v. 29 (cf.

⁴¹⁰ Moloney (1998: 53) says, "The response of the Baptist to his interrogators on the first day (vv. 19-28) is further clarified".

⁴¹¹ Chatman (1978: 48) says, "Revelatory plots tend to be strongly character-oriented".

⁴¹² Talbert (1992: 81) states that, "Day Two (vv. 29-34) is linked to Day One (vv. 19-27) not only by the seven- or eight-day scheme but also by link phrases: 'the one who comes after me', v. 27/v. 30; 'I baptize', v. 26/vv. 31, 33". Painter (1993: 176) opines that, "In each scene John is present as the witness. His words of witness, initiated by inquiry, overlap the scenes on each day so that an element of the witness from the first day (1:19-28) is repeated on the second (1:29-34); and an element from the second on the third (1:35-37)". Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 47; Harvey, 1976: 18-32; Wink, 1968.

⁴¹³ Cf. Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 4:24; Duke, 1985: 128; Brown, 1970: 2: 867; Brant, 2004: 87.

⁴¹⁴ Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53; Dodd, 1963: 269-76; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 24-6; Stibbe, 1993: 34-6; Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80.

⁴¹⁵ The commentaries do not deal with this important issue nor suggest solutions. Though our intention is not to deal those issues, here the researcher intends to open up the issue for further discussions.

Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 4:24); and *second*, when John says οὗτός ἐστιν ὑπὲρ οὗ ἐγὼ εἶπα (vv. 30), his readers are brought to the understanding that there was a previous discourse circumscribed around the theme ὁ ἄμυνος τοῦ θεοῦ.⁴¹⁶ It is not logical to think that John's utterance in vv. 30-31 is presented in view of his dialogue with the Jews in vv. 26-27.⁴¹⁷ A comparison of the two slots (vv. 19-28 and vv. 29-34) gives us evidence to state that John's monologue in vv. 29b-34 is not completely a derivation from the reported dialogue of the previous day; rather, it makes the reader think about the possibility of a combination of several dialogues.⁴¹⁸ If one takes the position that the monologue was a reproduction of the previous day's dialogue, then it is also true that the dialogue section in vv. 19-28 provides incomplete information.⁴¹⁹ This incomplete nature of the dialogical tenets in the monologue is significant in the process of interpretation.

At the pragmatic level, the monologue section functions rhetorically as follows: *first*, both the dialogue (vv. 19-28) and the monologue (vv. 29-34) are complimentary to one another;⁴²¹ *second*, while both the Jews and John the Baptist are introduced in equal proportion in the dialogue, in the monologue John's utterances are foregrounded as a response to the previous day's questions and answers, while John the Baptist's identity and activity are stated clearly in the dialogue, Jesus' identity is stated in conspicuous terms in the monologue;⁴²² *third*, the language of the narrator [through the means of the narratorial notes and direct speech] is both revelatory and performative as he draws the attention of the reader toward Jesus the protagonist; and *fifth*, the usage of linguistic phenomena, such as the use of christological titles [i.e., Lamb of God and Son of God],⁴²³ transition from 'knowing' to 'unknowing',⁴²⁴ cultic references [i.e., baptism], forensic connotation

⁴¹⁶ Smith (1999: 70) opines that, "... John is the narrator as he looks back retrospectively on what has happened."

⁴¹⁷ John 1:30-31 is not a reproduction of vv. 26-27 on the following grounds: *first*, in the dialogue the Jews are in a "not into know" position; but in the monologue John is in a "not into know" (v. 31) position; *second*, in the dialogue John's inferiority is highly emphasised; but in the monologue, Christ's superiority is the focal point; and *third*, the former and the latter sections are not in conformity with each other on verbal grounds as the monologue introduces new themes and concepts.

⁴¹⁸ Cf. Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 24-6; Dodd, 1963: 269-76; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80.

⁴¹⁹ In that way it actualises the author's purpose statement in 21:25. Similarly, the reporting language of the monologue in vv. 32-34 makes the reader think about the reproduction of a divine revelation to John the Baptist (cf. Matthew 3: 13-17). John seems to quote a previously occurring event without going into the details of the setting. In vv. 19-28, the narrator clearly explains the real setting of the dialogue that happened between the Jews and John the Baptist, "when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem" and "in Bethany across the Jordan" the narrator employs a kind of "third party's reporting" methodology to recapitulate the story of a previously reported dialogue with larger efficacy and rhetorical colouring. In most cases of dialogues, the narrator attempts to provide a clear picture about the scene for the extended readers.

⁴²⁰ Greimas and Courtés (1979: 152) opine that, "If the explicit is viewed as constituting the manifested part of an utterance (sentence or discourse), the implicit corresponds to the non-manifested part, although it is present directly or indirectly by the utterance produced". This principle guides the reader, along with the circumstantial evidences, to see the implicit trends of dialogue in the monologue section.

⁴²¹ As we have discussed above, the narrator accretes the monologue in relation to the previous dialogue(s).

⁴²² John the Baptist's monologue in vv. 29-34 diminishes his interlocutors from the foreground to the background.

⁴²³ Smith (1999: 68-9) is of the opinion that by employing these terminologies John here "evokes the language and imagery of Scripture".

⁴²⁴ John the Baptist's mental transition from "I myself did not know him" (twice, vv. 31 and 33) to "I myself have known and have testified that this is the Son of God" tells the reader the way in which he moved from absolute uncertainty to confirmation. In place of the hostile questions and evasive answers, John's positive testimony now leads his readers to a new understanding.

witness and testified], and agency language, are rhetorical in effect (cf. Smith, 1999: 71; Schmidt, 2000: 45-46). Neyrey (2007: 53)⁴²⁵ rightly comments that, “John’s testimony functions in two ways: it deflects the hostile challenges of Jerusalem outsiders and makes Jesus known to insiders”. The means of language employed here informs the implied reader about the person of Jesus.⁴²⁶ Thus the monologue in vv. 29-34 maintains the flow of thought of the previous day’s dialogue (i.e., vv. 19-28) and invites the attention of the reader toward Jesus. It also leads the reader toward another revelatory dialogue in vv. 35-42 (cf. Brant, 2011: 49-50; Brodie, 1993: 152-7).

1.2.3. Slot Three (1:35-42)

The content of the third slot (v. 35a; Τῇ ἐπαύριον) can be outlined in the following way.⁴²⁷ In vv. 35-42, four layers of dialogue (vv. 36-37, 38-39a, 41, and 42) take place within an extended span of time (see vv. 35 and 39; cf. Schmidt, 2000: 47-50; Michaels, 1984/1989: 37-44). The narrator reports that while John was standing (v. 35; εἰστήκει, cf. Wallace, 1996: 586) with two of his disciples,⁴²⁸ he watched (v. 36a; ἐμβλέψας) Jesus ‘walk by’ (v. 36a; περιπατοῦντι). John exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God” (v. 36b; Ἴδε ὁ ἀμνὸς τοῦ θεοῦ).⁴²⁹ The two disciples who heard (v. 37a; ἤκουσαν) John’s proclamation followed Jesus (v. 37b; ἠκολούθησαν, cf. Robertson, 1932: 25).⁴³⁰ Moloney (1998: 59; cf. Bauckham, 2008: 133) is of the opinion that, “The language of ‘following’ is associated with discipleship across all canonical gospels. The word has at least two possible meanings: a spiritual ‘following’ in which the disciples learn from and model themselves on the one followed, and a physical ‘following’ in which the disciple treads the same path as the master. In the gospel traditions both meanings are involved”. John’s utterance in 36b and his disciples’ response in v. 37 demonstrate the implicit nature of the first layer of dialogue (cf. Drewermann, 2003: 84-98). The action-oriented nature of the utterance is embellished by the help of narratorial seams (cf. v. 37; see Table 5).

John 1:35-42	Overview
v.35: Τῇ ἐπαύριον πάλιν εἰστήκει ὁ Ἰωάννης καὶ ἐκ τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ δύο v.36: καὶ ἐμβλέψας τῷ Ἰησοῦ περιπατοῦντι λέγει, Ἴδε ὁ ἀμνὸς τοῦ θεοῦ.	(1) The slot develops within an extended duration of time: (a) the expression τῇ ἐπαύριον (an anaphora) marks the third day of the series of dialogues (v. 35); and (b) the expression ἦλθαν οὖν καὶ εἶδαν ποῦ μένει καὶ παρ’

“into the know”, unlike the Pharisees, who do “not know”. See Stibbe, 1993: 34-6; Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53; Neyrey, 2007: 52.

⁴²⁵ Cf. Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Stibbe, 1993: 34-6; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53.

⁴²⁶ The key elements of the monologue are revelatory. The implied reader of the story is more informed when the plot structure of the story is further developed.

⁴²⁷ As per the information, this is the third day of events. The expression τῇ ἐπαύριον shows the use of the repetitive style in the Johannine narratives. Cf. Van der Watt, 2009: 87-108; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42.

⁴²⁸ Brown (1966: 73; cf. Bernard, 1929: 1: 53) says that, “Literally ‘was standing’, takes it in the sense that John the Baptist was standing, awaiting Jesus. More likely the verb simply implies that he was present”.

⁴²⁹ Smith (1999: 71) states that, “As another day dawns (v. 35), John is now accompanied by two of his disciples, and he again designates Jesus the Lamb of God. Previously Jesus was coming to John (v. 29); now he is walking by”. Jeremias (1964: 338; cf. Gess, 1967/1980: 411) says that, “In the NT it (i.e., ἀμνός) occurs 4 times (John 1:29, 36; Acts 8:32; 1 Pet 1:19) and it is always applied to Jesus, who is compared with a lamb as the One who suffers and dies innocently and representatively”. Wallace (1996: 60) observes, “In NT usage, Ἴδε and Ἰδοῦ are customarily followed by a nom”. Cf. Quast, 1991: 15; Painter, 1993: 183-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5.

⁴³⁰ See Painter, 1993: 183-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42; Carson, 1991: 153-7.

<p>v.37: καὶ ἤκουσαν οἱ δύο μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ λαλοῦντος καὶ ἠκολούθησαν τῷ Ἰησοῦ.</p> <p>v.38: στραφεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ θεασάμενος αὐτοὺς ἀκολουθοῦντας λέγει αὐτοῖς, Τί ζητεῖτε; οἱ δὲ εἶπαν αὐτῷ, Ῥαββί, ὃ λέγεται μεθερμηνευόμενον Διδάσκαλε, ποῦ μένεις;</p> <p>v.39: λέγει αὐτοῖς, Ἔρχεσθε καὶ ὄψεσθε. ἦλθαν οὖν καὶ εἶδαν ποῦ μένει καὶ παρ' αὐτῷ ἔμειναν τὴν ἡμέραν ἐκείνην· ὥρα ἦν ὡς δεκάτη.</p> <p>v.40: Ἦν Ἀνδρέας ὁ ἀδελφὸς Σίμωνος Πέτρου εἷς ἐκ τῶν δύο τῶν ἀκουσάντων παρὰ Ἰωάννου καὶ ἀκολουθησάντων αὐτῷ.</p> <p>v.41: εὗρίσκει οὗτος πρῶτον τὸν ἀδελφὸν τὸν ἴδιον Σίμωνα καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ, Εὗρήκαμεν τὸν Μεσσίαν, ὃ ἐστὶν μεθερμηνευόμενον Χριστός.</p> <p>v.42: ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν. ἐμβλέψας αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν, Σὺ εἶ Σίμων ὁ υἱὸς Ἰωάννου, σὺ κληθήσῃ Κηφᾶς, ὃ ἐρμηνεύεται Πέτρος.</p>	<p>αὐτῷ ἔμειναν τὴν ἡμέραν ἐκείνην· ὥρα ἦν ὡς δεκάτη. v. 39 shows a long gap (the gap is filled by narrator comments);</p> <p>(2) There are four levels of dialogue reported in vv. 42: (a) John the Baptist and two of his disciples (vv. 37); (b) Jesus and the two disciples (vv. 38-39); (c) Andrew and Simon Peter (vv. 40-41); and (d) Jesus Simon Peter (v. 42);</p> <p>(3) There are six utterance units recorded in the story: 36b, 38a, 38b, 39a, 41, and 42b (see the text);</p> <p>(4) The utterance units are supported by narrative a (vv. 38b, 41, and 42b), formula narratives (vv. 36a, 38b, 39a, 41a, 42a), and pure narratives (vv. 35, 37, 40).</p>
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Table 5: The dialogue of 1:35-42

The narrator shifts the camera from John to Jesus as the disciples move on. Jesus asks the disciples who follow him: “what are you looking for?” (v. 38a; Τί ζητεῖτε;). They reply: “Rabbi, where are you staying?” (v. 38b; Ῥαββί, ποῦ μένεις;).⁴³¹ Jesus’ response to them is “come and see” (Ἔρχεσθε καὶ ὄψεσθε, cf. Smith, 2005: 206-11).⁴³² The dialogue proper at the second level highlights two important things: *first*, Andrew and the ‘other’ disciple acknowledge Jesus as ‘Rabbi’ (cf. Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.25);⁴³³ and *second*, Jesus invites them to stay with him and ultimately to become his disciples. The narrator reports about their arrival to Jesus’ place and their stay with him that day (v. 39). It is further narrated that the same day around four o’clock Andrew went to his brother Simon Peter (v. 39).⁴³⁴ He first finds Peter and says to him: “I have found the Messiah” (v. 41).⁴³⁵ The narrator reports about the positive response of Simon

⁴³¹ Wallace (1996: 449) sees in v. 38 a syntactical feature called *interrogative indicative*. He says: “The indicative is used in a question. The question *expects an assertion* to be made; it expects a declarative indicative in the answer. . . . The interrogative indicative typically probes for information. In other words, it does not ask the *how* or the *what*”.

⁴³² Talbert (1992: 82) opines that, “Day Three is linked to Day Two not only by the seven or eight day scheme by the link phrase, Lamb of God (vv. 29, 36). John, who has been center stage on Days One and Two, now offstage and is replaced by Jesus, who attracts disciples to himself (cf. 1:6-8)”. Wallace (1996: 489-90) explains the *conditional imperative* in v. 39. He says, “. . . in John 1:39 Ἔρχεσθε καὶ ὄψεσθε (‘come and you will see’) *you come—and I want you to—you will see*”. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 80-2; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 54-5; Murray, 1987: 26-7; Stibbe, 1993: 36-8; Barrett, 1978: 179-83.

⁴³³ Cf. Brown, 1966: 74; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 82; Quast, 1991: 14-6.

⁴³⁴ Brown (1966: 75) opines that, “Literally ‘the tenth hour’; presumably John is reckoning the hours from dawn at 6 A.M”. Moloney (1998: 54) says that, “Nothing is reported of what was shared, and there is no evident symbolic reading of Jesus’ invitation and the time they spend with him”.

⁴³⁵ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 84-5; cf. Brown, 1966: 75-6; Moloney, 1998: 54) explains that, “‘First’ has to be taken in the entire sentence and means that Andrew, before doing anything else, informed his brother Simon of what he himself and the other disciple had experienced”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 76; Kanagaraj, 2005: 84-9; Painter, 1993: 183-4; and Nida, 1980: 42-3; Carson, 1991: 153-7. Hurtado (1992: 115; cf. Grundmann, 1974: 566-7) explains that, Andrew refers to Jesus as ‘the Messiah’ (Μεσσίας), and transliterated Aramaic term is translated by the Greek Χριστός”. Wallace (1996: 201, 293) considers πρῶτον to be an adverbial accusative (cf. v. 41). Smith (1999: 100)

Andrew and their journey together to Jesus. Here the reader can infer yet another implicit dialogue as the third layer (v. 41). Simon was brought to Jesus; Jesus looked at him and said: “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (v. 42).⁴³⁶ The reader can notice another layer of implicit dialogue as the fourth layer in v. 42.⁴³⁷ The ‘short talk’ at vv. 38b-39a between Jesus and the two disciples is the only explicit dialogue within the pericope.⁴³⁸ Semantically, the dialogues of the third slot point out the following: *first*, John’s introduction of the Lamb of God to the world; *second*, the disciples’ quest and Jesus’ invitation of them to discipleship; *third*, the disciples’ realisation that he is the Messiah; and *fourth*, Peter’s special appointment with a new title [i.e., Cephas].⁴³⁹ As Painter (1991: 40; cf. Van Hartingsveld, 1980: 29-34) opines, “the third scene demonstrates the quest of the disciples for the Messiah and the witness of the Baptist is given in summary form only, so the emphasis falls on the quest”. The movement of the characters from “one space to another, or from one temporal interval to another” (cf. Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 201) is dramatically portrayed by the narrator here.⁴⁴⁰ The talk-units are sequentially arranged with the help of narratives and they provide the reader a picture of representative scenes from at least four dialogue contexts (see vv. 36, 38-39a, 41, and 42; cf. Perkins, 1978: 10-15).⁴⁴¹

The content of the dialogic slot can be further systematised with the help of its form as follows. The talk-units of the slot begin with John’s “exclamation” or “introduction” (v. 36; cf. Robertson, 1932: 25). Jesus’ first utterance in the entire gospel appears in the form of an “interrogation” (v. 36; *Τί ζητεῖτε;*) to John’s disciples.⁴⁴² The response of the disciples, i.e., *Ῥαββί,*⁴⁴³ *ποῦ μένεις;*, forms a *counter question* for information (cf. Bauckham, 2008: 134; Keener, 2003: 1: 470-71).⁴⁴⁴ Jesus’ answer to their *counter-question*, i.e., “come and see” (*Ἐρχεσθε καὶ ὄψεσθε*), can be considered as an “invitation” (cf. Smith, 2005: 206-11).⁴⁴⁵ The format of the conversation in the

“The climactic moment of the synoptic narratives, the identification of Jesus as the Messiah or Christ, is attained already at the beginning of the Fourth Gospel”.

⁴³⁶ Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 311; cf. Dodd, 1963: 306-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 77) is of the opinion that, “The evangelist’s main interest is the fact that Jesus announced that Simon will have the name *Κηφᾶς*”.

⁴³⁷ The implicit dialogues maintain the following sequence: *first*, in v. 36 John utters, in v. 37 disciples hear John and following Jesus; *second*, in v. 41 Andrew tells Simon about the Messiah, in v. 42a Peter comes to Jesus; and *third*, in v. 42b Jesus talks to Peter, in the rest of the book Peter is in the list of leading disciples.

⁴³⁸ Only at the second layer (vv. 38-39b) can a reader notice a verbal exchange between the characters. In all the other three occurrences, verbal utterances are responded to by action (vv. 36-37, 41, and 42).

⁴³⁹ See the way these four things are outlined in the slot. Cf. Moloney, 1998: 54-5; Köstenberger, 2004: 71-8.

⁴⁴⁰ The movements of the characters are significant in the process of interpretation. In John 1:35-42, there are a series of character movements: *first*, the standing of John and his disciples (v. 35); *second*, Jesus as a walk on character (v. v. 36a); *third*, the two disciples’ movement away from John the Baptist to Jesus (v. 37); *fourth*, Jesus’ turning around and seeing the disciples (v. 38a); *fifth*, the disciples’ coming to the place where Jesus stays and remaining with him (v. 39b); *sixth*, Andrew’s movement to Simon Peter (vv. 40-41); and *seventh*, Andrew’s initiative to bring Simon Peter to Jesus (v. 42). Cf. Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 201.

⁴⁴¹ Cf. Carson, 1991: 153-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-4; Painter, 1993: 183-4.

⁴⁴² Robertson (1932: 25-6; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 36) says, “Not ‘whom’ (*tina*, 18:4; 20:15), but ‘what purpose have you’”. The first words of Jesus preserved in this Gospel”. Cf. Luke 2:49; Matthew 3:15; Mark 1:15.

⁴⁴³ With a narratorial note *ὃ λέγεται μεθερμηνευόμενον Διδάσκαλε*.

⁴⁴⁴ Painter (1993: 183) states that, “The use of the word abide (*μένεις*), an important Johannine term (see 15:1-10), probably signals a double meaning. The question not only concerns where Jesus intended to spend the night, it also refers to his abiding relation to the Father”.

⁴⁴⁵ Robertson (1932: 26) considers it as a “polite invitation and definite promise”. Painter considers it as a “pronouncement”. Painter (1993: 183-84) says, “Jesus responded with a pronouncement, a command with a promise attached; *Ἐρχεσθε καὶ ὄψεσθε*. ‘Come’ is imperative, ‘you will see’ is future and conveys a promise, as does *ὄψη* in the pronouncement of 1:50”. See Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-4; Painter, 1993: 183-4; Carson, 1991: 153-7.

first half of the slot (cf. vv. 35-39b) creates a chain of talk-units back and forth between characters. In the second half (cf. vv. 39c-42), Andrew's declaration of the Messiah (v. 41) Jesus' changing of Peter's name (v. 42b)⁴⁴⁶ are the foci (cf. Brant, 2011: 50-52; see Table 1). The use of pure narration at vv. 39b-40 keeps the slot in a doublet format. The talk-units break the intervals (cf. vv. 36b, 39a, 41b, and 42b), but at the same time they hold the entire slot together. It is important to notice that the juxtaposition of the roles of both John the Baptist and Jesus is introduced with the help of dramatic conventions.⁴⁴⁷

John's activities at the beginning of the slot, as one who "again stood up" (πάλιν εἰστήκει, "having looked at" (ἐμβλέψας),⁴⁴⁹ and "says" (λέγει), position him for a dramatic activity. His proclamation, as a continuation of the previous day's monologue (i.e., v. 36; Ἰδε ὁ ἀμνὸς τοῦ θεοῦ), rhetorically introduces the Lamb of God to the world.⁴⁵¹ The revelatory aspect of the dialogue is made vivid through the introduction of the 'walking' (περιπατοῦντι) Jesus to the scene (cf. Van Hartingsveld, 1980: 29-34; Brodie, 1993: 158-63). The slot forms both minor and major inclusions. John the Baptist's christological proclamation at the beginning of the slot (Ἰδε ὁ ἀμνὸς τοῦ θεοῦ, v. 36b) forms a *minor inclusion* with Andrew's christological proclamation (Εὗροντες τὸν Μεσσίαν, v. 41b) in order to place the explicit dialogue (cf. 38b-39a) at the center of the pericope. In the words of Köstenberger (2004: 71; Franzmann and Klinger, 1992; Bauer, 2008: 133-34), "... Peter is assigned a very passive role in 1:37-42. In a sense, his actual narrative is not found until the very end of the gospel (21:15-23), an apparent *inclusio(n)*". The messiahship of Jesus stated at the beginning of the gospel (v. 41; cf. vv. 45, 49) forms a *major inclusion* with the purpose statement of the gospel (20:31; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 77; Scott, 2000: 47-50).⁴⁵³

Utterance	Form	Content
John the Baptist	Exclamation, declaration, information	Presence of the Lamb of God
Jesus	Question	What are the disciples searching for?
Andrew/unnamed disciple	Counter-question	The place of Jesus' staying
Jesus	Invitation	Come and see
Andrew	Testimony, declaration, information	Andrew found the Messiah

⁴⁴⁶ Moloney (1998: 60) opines that, "Given the widespread presence of Simon Peter in the gospel traditions, his indisputable role as the appointed leader of the Twelve and other disciples it is most likely that the author of the Gospel plays on readers' awareness of the Cephas/Peter figure in this promise". Cf. Dodd, 1963: 306-9; Painter, 1993: 183-4; Kanagaraj, 2005: 84-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5; Carson, 1991: 153-7.

⁴⁴⁷ The movement of the disciples can be considered as one *away* from the Baptist *toward* Jesus. Carey and Scott (1999: 51) define dramatic convention as "the traditional arrangement of characters on a stage who appear to speak and act out a series of events that form the play". In John 1:35-42, the dramatic conventions of progression and plot structure of the slot. Cf. Moloney, 1998: 54; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 26-7; Barrett, 1978: 183-4; Stibbe, 1993: 36-8; Blomberg, 2001: 80-2; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 54-5.

⁴⁴⁸ Vincent (1969: 69) states, "... more correctly, *was standing*, since the imperfect tense denotes some progress. Here, therefore, with the idea of *waiting*; *was standing* in expectation". Cf. 7:37; 18:5, 6, 18.

⁴⁴⁹ First aorist active participle of ἐμβλέπω, antecedent action before λέγει (says). See Robertson, 1932: 25.

⁴⁵⁰ The narrator's attempt to transfer the dialogue from John to Jesus is plotted by the help of dramatic elements.

⁴⁵¹ Cf. Painter, 1993: 183-4; Jeremias, 1964: 338; Gess, 1967/1980: 411; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5.

⁴⁵² Köstenberger (2004: 77; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 85-86) further states that, "Peter is identified as 'Simon' only here (cf. v. 42) and in 21:15-17, which may be another instance of *inclusio*".

⁴⁵³ Another *major inclusion* can be made between Jesus' first utterance in v. 38 ("What are you looking for?") and Jesus' question to Mary in 20:15 ("Whom are you looking for?"). Cf. Resseguie, 2005: 144-5.

Jesus	Declaration, changing of name	Simon is son of John and he will be called Cephas
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Table 6: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 1:35-42

In the dialogue proper, the content is conveyed by way of utterance-forms like *exclamation* or *information* (v. 36b), *question and counter question* (v. 38), *invitation* (v. 39a), *testimony* or *information* (v. 41b), and *changing of name* (v. 42b; see Table 6).⁴⁵⁴ The utterances of John in v. 36b and Andrew in v. 41b are *declarative* and more *revelatory* in format.⁴⁵⁵ By interweaving the movements of the characters closely to their vocal delivery, all dialogues in the slot exhibit their act-oriented nature.⁴⁵⁶ The narrator uses at least three *explanatory notes* in the passage as asides: *first*, ὃ λέγεται μεθερμηνεύμενον Διδάσκαλε (v. 38); *second*, ὃ ἐστὶν μεθερμηνεύμενον Χριστός (v. 41); and *third*, ὃ ἐρμηνεύεται Πέτρος (v. 42; cf. Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.296).⁴⁵⁷ All these narrative asides are helpful for the implied reader to gather additional information about the characters. The narrator of the story uses the “irony of silence” extensively within the slot. According to Duke (1985: 55), “silence is the method of irony The silence becomes an invitation to the reader to weigh the unlikely probability of the speaker’s assumptions . . . this invitation is implicit in all the ensuing silences of this beckoning Gospel”. The implicit nature of dialogues within the slot helps the irony of silence.

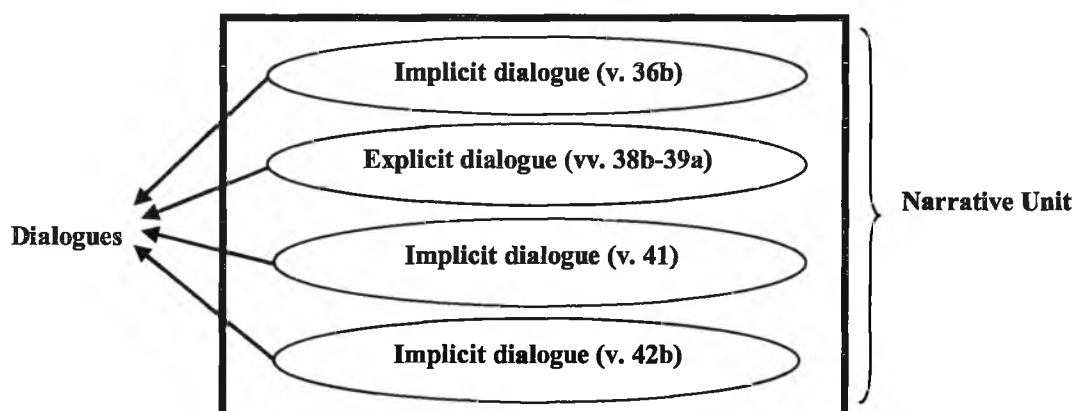


Diagram 5: The four-layer dialogue within the narrative framework

⁴⁵⁴ The utterance units are introduced by the help of proper narratives, formula narratives, and narrative asides. Interpretation of utterance units without links with the narratives may lead the reader toward miscomprehensions. See the grammatical constructions involved in the narrative, Robertson, 1932: 24-8.

⁴⁵⁵ The christological titles at vv. 36b and 41b inform the implied reader more details about the protagonist. It is not only Jesus' utterances reveal his identity but also the utterances of those who come on his way.

⁴⁵⁶ What Conway (2002: 479) says is appropriate to quote here: “Judging from a line of scholarship that has persisted in Johannine studies for nearly a century, it is safe to say that the Fourth Gospel invites dramatic production”. Also see Painter, 1993: 183-4; Carson, 1991: 153-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5.

⁴⁵⁷ Hendriksen (1961: 1: 103, 106) describes the three explanatory notes: *first*, the two disciples of the Baptist use the term of polite address, ‘Rabbi’; *second*, Messiah, translated, is Christ, to anoint; and *third*, Cephas (in Aramaic) or Peter (in Greek). Cf. Dodd, 1963: 306-9; Carson, 1991: 153-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5; Painter, 1993: 183-4.

The plot development of the story is actualised with the help of the dialogue, action and movement of the characters.⁴⁵⁸ The key role played by John the Baptist in the previous two scenes, through the interactive and implicit dialogues and monologue, is now amicably brought to an end.⁴⁵⁹ Neyrey (2007: 55) states that, “. . . the narrative turns its full attention to Jesus”. Köstenberger (2004: 73) says, “The present account (including vv. 43-51) represents an independent Johannine equivalent to the synoptic *call stories*” (Mark 1:16-20; Matthew 9:1-13; Dodd, 1963: 302-3; Painter, 1993: 179-82). The scenes of the slot are arranged in the following representative talk-units: *first*, John and the two disciples (v. 36); *second*, Jesus and the two disciples (vv. 38-39a); *third*, Andrew to Simon (v. 41); and *fourth*, Jesus to Simon (v. 42) (cf. Diagram 5).⁴⁶⁰ Thus the third slot (1:35-42)⁴⁶¹ includes layers of one explicit dialogue (vv. 39a) and three implicit dialogues arranged in a ‘cohesive’ manner (vv. 36b, 41b, and 42b; cf. Neyrey, 1971: 44).⁴⁶²

The content and form of the dialogue, as discussed above, are helpful in understanding the function of it.⁴⁶³ The narrator makes the story ‘tellable’ and rhetorical.⁴⁶⁴ The four-layer structure of the dialogue, i.e., both the explicit and the implicit dialogues within the narrative framework, opens up a myriad possibilities of reading.⁴⁶⁵ The use of layers of dialogue instead of pure narrative draws the reader closer to the text.⁴⁶⁶ The narrator of the story adopts diverse talk-forms and literary devices [especially *inclusion*, *irony* and *narrative asides*] in order to make the dialogue between

⁴⁵⁸ The plot structure of the slot develops in two ways: *first*, beyond the slot, vv. 35-42 is well connected with vv. 31-34 by way of the anaphoric expression, τῇ ἐπαύριον; and *second*, within the slot, the four layers of dialogue are sequentially inserted in order to sustain narrative progression.

⁴⁵⁹ Dods (1961: 698) mentions that, “. . . from the evangelist’s point of view it is (i.e., vv. 35-52) . . . blending the witness of John with the self-manifestation of Jesus”. Bultmann (1971: 99) considers it as John’s surrendering to Jesus.

⁴⁶⁰ See Painter, 1993: 183-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5; Carson, 1991: 153-7.

⁴⁶¹ The layers of dialogue are arranged in the following fashion: *first*, dialogue of John the Baptist to the two disciples (implicit); *second*, Jesus and the two disciples (explicit); *third*, Andrew and Simon Peter (implicit); and *fourth*, Jesus and Simon Peter (implicit). Cf. Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Neyrey, 2007: 54-61; Stibbe, 1993: 34-6; Blomberg, 2001: 80; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53.

⁴⁶² According to Stibbe (1993: 38), “the role of the narrator is more clearly evident in this story than in the other scenes after the prologue. A particularly important aspect of the storytelling appears here: the tendency to use explanatory parentheses”. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 77-80; Barrett, 1978: 175-8; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53.

⁴⁶³ The semantic and syntactic aspects of the dialogue(s) and narrative actualise certain pragmatic aspects (cf. Dijk, 1976: 26-29). While in the semantic aspects we find the ‘what’ [i.e., the content] of the discourse/narrative, in the syntactic area we see the ‘how’ [i.e., the form] of that. Differently from (also, overlapping with the content and form) both the ‘what’ and ‘how’ aspects, in the pragmatic area our concern is primarily on the aspects of ‘what for’ [the function].

⁴⁶⁴ Bowles (2010: 3) says, “. . . in trying to make a narrative ‘tellable’, storytellers are forced to weave a balance between keeping audiences entertained while making sure they keep faith with what they are being told. The tellability of the story is sustained in vv. 35-42 by intermingling dialogues, movements, and actions of the characters within the narratorial framework.”

⁴⁶⁵ Especially, the implicit language and nature of the dialogues open avenues for the reader in order to ponder on the utterance units and their connections with the actions and the movements of the characters.

⁴⁶⁶ The narrator of the story could compose the entire slot as a pure narrative, i.e., without using ‘active voice’ utterance units. But the use of active voice utterance units, instead of passive voice narratives, adds more force to the narrative framework of the story. While the narrative takes the reader to the past, the dialogue has to make the event ‘here and now’ (cf. Chatman, 1978: 63).

narrator and the reader forceful. The narrator's inclusion of implicit dialogues by way of the 'irony of silence' prompts the reader to get involved into the story.⁴⁶⁷ The 'testimonies' of John the Baptist and Andrew (vv. 36b, 41) are revelatory, and also persuasive, as they direct the attention of the reader toward Jesus (cf. Dodd, 1963: 303). While the characters talk, move, and act symbolically, their talk-forms, movements, and actions function rhetorically within the narrative framework.⁴⁶⁸ While in the first layer of dialogue John the Baptist witnesses about the Lamb of God yet another time (v. 36b; cf. v. 29), in the second layer the focus is drawn away from John to Jesus and the beginning of the making of Jesus' disciples (vv. 38-39a; cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 37-44).⁴⁶⁹ While the third layer reports about Andrew's witness of Jesus as the Messiah (v. 41), the fourth layer records Peter's new identity (v. 42). Thus the implied reader of the story is informed about some of the important themes, like 'disciple-making' and 'following Jesus',⁴⁷⁰ and about Jesus' identity as the Lamb of God⁴⁷¹ and the Messiah.⁴⁷²

As indicated above, the narrative unit of vv. 35-42 includes layers of events and conversations, but the events and conversations are plotted as a single unit with rhetorical impact (cf. Schmidt, 2000: 47-50; Drewermann, 2003: 84-98).⁴⁷³ The narrator sustains 'coherence' within the narrative

⁴⁶⁷ As Elam (1980: 135) states, a basic distinction between the context of the performer-spectator transaction and the context of the character-to-character communication has to be drawn. "How the narrator of the story communicates with the readers?" and "how the characters communicate among themselves and the readers?" are to be analysed and understood for a proper understanding of the narrative.

⁴⁶⁸ See Carson, 1991: 153-7; Painter, 1993: 183-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5.

⁴⁶⁹ Though introduced as two layers of dialogues, the narrator attempts to sustain the plot development of the story with the help of narratorial comments (vv. 37-38a). See Painter, 1993: 183-4; Carson, 1991: 153-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5; Brant, 2011: 50-2.

⁴⁷⁰ Köstenberger (2004: 73; cf. Köstenberger, 1998: 145-7, 177-80; cf. Dodd, 1963: 302-12; Painter, 1993: 183; Stibbe, 1993: 38) says that, "The term 'Ἀκολουθεῖω (follow), which occurs here for the first time in John, is used in all four gospels (though not the rest of the NT) with reference to Jesus' disciples".

⁴⁷¹ The title "Lamb of God" dialogues with: *first*, Jesus as the King of Israel (18:33-37; 19:19-22); *second*, Jesus lays down his life for his sheep not as a sheep but as a shepherd (10:11); *third*, he baptizes with the Holy Spirit (1:33; 3:22), offering new forms of purification; and *fourth*, in his death, Jesus confronts "the ruler of this world" (14:30), who hates Jesus and his disciples (15:18-19) but whom Jesus boasts of conquering (16:33). "Lamb of God" dialogically connects Jesus with the Jewish messianic King, the figure in Isa 53, the purifying wisdom figure and the apocalyptic victorious lamb. The title also has intra-textual connections with the succeeding passages of the gospel. See Neyrey, 2007: 52; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 50-2. Here two factors are conspicuous: *first*, the title "Lamb of God" is used by John the Baptist for two consecutive days in order to introduce Jesus; and *second*, the hearers' silence in both cases infers that the community was well-aware of the messianic title. "Lamb of God" may refer to *first*, the King of Israel, a messianic, militant figure; *second*, the redemptive work of a figure based on Isa 53; *third*, the servant who purifies through wisdom; and *fourth*, a victorious lamb who defeats lions and other beasts. See Jeremias, 1964: 338; Gess, 1967/1980: 411; Neyrey, 2007: 52; Dodd, 1960: 230-8; Virgulin, 1961: 76-8; Talbert, 1992: 81; Witherington, 1995: 66. It is one of the important christological titles in John that dialogues well both inter-textually and intra-textually.

⁴⁷² Bernard (1929: 53) considers "Lamb of God" and "Christ" as synonymous terms. While talking about the terminology 'Rabbi', he says (1929: 55): "In the early part of the Gospel the disciples are always represented as saying Rabbi, while others, such as the woman of Samaria (4:11), the noble man of Capernaum (4:49), Mary and Martha of Bethany (11:3, 21, 27, 32), say Κύριε". About the usage of Messiah, Bernard (1929: 58) opines: "This was (and is) the Great Discovery (cf. Εὐρήκαμεν τὸν Μεσσίαν). Andrew speaks for his unnamed companion as well as for himself: 'We have found the Messiah'".

⁴⁷³ The narrator adds rhetorics to the story by the help of dialogue and narrative intertwining, literary devices, and the usage of christological titles (i.e., Lamb of God, Messiah, and Rabbi). See Kanagaraj, 2005: 84-9; Carson, 1991: 153-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5; Painter, 1993: 183-4.

framework (cf. Falk, 1971: 42) as follows: *first*, by interknitting the individual layers of di with character movements and actions; and *second*, by incorporating all the layers of di sequentially as a single whole.⁴⁷⁴ A closer reading of all these plotted events reveals, as V Watt (2007: 12) says, “a story behind the story”.⁴⁷⁵ The story of John the Baptist provides a background for the upcoming story of Jesus. The narrator’s language is performative as: *f* takes the reader both backward (analeptically) and forward (proleptically);⁴⁷⁶ and *seco* foregrounds Jesus before the reader and backgrounds John the Baptist behind the curtain. The narrator of the story presents Jesus as an interactive and communicative personality right fr beginning of his public appearance.⁴⁷⁸ As a ‘purposeful’ writing, in the words of Hay Holladay (2007: 92), John’s dialogue here “seeks to persuade the reader about certain positions, and courses of action”. The truth of the story, that Jesus is the Lamb of God & Messiah, is revealed well in advance; the position of belief, though the term ‘belief’ do appear here, is what the narrator attempts to cultivate in the reader; and ‘disciple makin’ ‘following’ or ‘remaining with Jesus’ are introduced as the courses of action. The fou dialogic format of the slot initiates a transfer of role from John the witness to Jesus th protagonist of the story.

1.2.4. Slot Four (1:43-51)

The content of the fourth slot (vv. 43-51) can be analysed as follows. Another τῇ ἐπαύριον (vv. 29 and 35) is introduced⁴⁷⁹ and the narrator tells that it was while Jesus decided (Gk. ἠθέλησεν) to go to Galilee (v. 43a).⁴⁸⁰ The structure of John 1:43-51 is very peculiar (cf. Schmidt, 2000:

⁴⁷⁴ Falk (1971: 43) uses the terms ‘coherence’ and ‘cohesion’ with the following intentions: *first*, ‘coherence’ designate the connections which exist between individual parts of a work; and *second*, ‘cohesion’, to refer to the totality of connections which exist among all parts within the whole. The implicit and explicit seams of di within the slot maintain both *first*, ‘coherence’ between narrative details (mostly actions, like ‘following’ [v. 39a], ‘staying’/‘remaining’ [v. 39b], ‘finding’/‘informing’ [v. 41], and ‘bringing’ [v. 42a], with the utterance units within individual layers; and *second*, ‘cohesion’ among the four layers by the help of narratives.

⁴⁷⁵ Van der Watt (2007: 12) further says, “The focus does not really fall on John (the Baptist—not called the Baptist in the Gospel) or on the disciples, but on Jesus”.

⁴⁷⁶ While the usage of the terms ‘Lamb of God’ and witnessing take the reader to the previous narratives, the terms ‘discipleship’, ‘Jesus’ messiahship’, and ‘Peter’s identification’ take the reader forward.

⁴⁷⁷ In the slot, Jesus moves away from background to foreground; John the Baptist moves away from foreground to background.

⁴⁷⁸ The use of these two broader layers (among the characters within the narrative framework and the communication with the readers through the mediation of the characters) work rhetorically in the gospel.

⁴⁷⁹ Talbert (1992: 83) sees a connection between the former slot and the current slot “not only the seven- or eight-day scheme but also the link word ‘found’ (vv. 41, 45) and the use of prophesy related to new disciples (vv. 42b, 43). The structure of John 1:43-51 is very peculiar. The construction τῇ ἐπαύριον in v. 43 calls the reader’s attention to similar structural beginnings at vv. 29 and 35. Cf. Carson, 1991: 157-66; Painter, 1993: 184-5; Blomberg, 2000: 89-94; Kanagaraj, 2005: 89-94; Newman and Nida, 1980: 47-53.

⁴⁸⁰ Culpepper (1983: 22) says, “John 1:43, a notoriously difficult verse, states that ‘he’—presumably Jesus—decided to go to Galilee. Since the narrator does not say that Jesus said he wanted to go to Galilee or that he seemed to go to Galilee, the narrator is apparently giving the reader an inside view”. See Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Barrett, 1955: 19; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Brown, 1966: 19; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8.

Brodie, 1993: 164-70). The narratorial opening of the slot slowly incorporates elements of dialogue. The conversation begins when Jesus ‘finds’ (εὐρίσκει, v. 43b) Philip and tells him to ‘follow him’ (Ἀκολουθεῖ μοι, v. 43b; cf. Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.379; Plastaras, 1972: 70-1).⁴⁸¹ Jesus’ utterance forms an implicit dialogue as Philip follows Jesus and gets involved in the mission of disciple making (vv. 44-46; cf. Dodd, 1963: 309-10; Brant, 2011: 52-54). The call of Jesus in v. 43b extends to the second layer of dialogue when Philip finds Nathanael and converses with him about Jesus (vv. 44-46; cf. Louw and Nida, 1988: 1: 93.270).⁴⁸² Philip begins the dialogue by informing Nathanael that he had found the one about whom Moses in the law and prophets spoke,⁴⁸³ Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth (Ἰησοῦν υἱὸν τοῦ Ἰωσήφ τὸν ἀπὸ Ναζαρέτ, v. 45).⁴⁸⁴ Painter (1993: 185; cf. Hill, 1997: 45-61) says, “Just as Andrew *finds* Simon so Philip *finds* Nathanael and each announces ‘We have found’ (εὐρήκαμεν), which implies the fulfillment of the search/quest”. As Painter rightly puts it, the mission of disciple-making and extension of Jesus’ circle are deciphered simultaneously here. Nathanael responds to Philip by asking him a question, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” (Ἐκ Ναζαρέτ δύναται τι ἀγαθὸν εἶναι, v. 46a; cf. Thompson, 1988: 16-7; Muilenburg, 1993: 75-6).⁴⁸⁵ Philip’s response is “come and see” (Ἐρχου καὶ ἴδε, v. 46b; Smith, 2005: 206-11; see Table 7).⁴⁸⁶ The “come and see” language used by Jesus in the previous slot (v. 46b; cf. v. 39a) is now passed on to the next level (cf. Brant, 2011: 53).⁴⁸⁷ The explicit dialogue is followed by the movement of Nathanael in v. 47a.

John 1:43-51	Overview
v.43: Τῇ ἐπαύριον ἠθέλησεν ἐξελεῖν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν καὶ εὐρίσκει Φίλιππον. καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἀκολουθεῖ μοι.	(1) The anaphoric expression τῇ ἐπαύριον is repeated at the beginning of the slot (v. 43);

⁴⁸¹ Painter (1993: 184; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: I: 310) points out that, “Either Andrew or Peter finds Philip who was called directly by Jesus, apparently in a manner similar to the calling of the disciples in Mark. It is possible that Philip was the second of the two disciples who followed Jesus on the previous day . . . If he was the second disciple of 1:35-40 his actions mirror those of Andrew”. Culpepper (1983: 115-16) says that, “Philip is the only disciple Jesus explicitly calls (1:43; cf. 21:22). The other disciples who are named begin to follow Jesus because they have been told about him by another of the disciples. The pattern for the role of the disciples in bringing faith to others is therefore established at the very beginning”. Cf. Brown, 1966: 81-91; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Barrett, 1978: 183; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42.

⁴⁸² In the narrative expression εὐρίσκει Φίλιππος τὸν Ναθαναήλ the article is used with Ναθαναήλ, an indeclinable name, to identify him as the direct object (cf. Wallace, 1996: 247). See Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30.

⁴⁸³ Lindars (1972: 117; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 107) says that, “The Messianic testimony is enlarged by allusion to the OT scriptures, cf. Luke 24:27”.

⁴⁸⁴ Lindars (1992: 117) states that, “So far he [i.e., Jesus] has appeared without historical background, but these details are necessary for the following dialogue”. Schneiders (1995: 364) says that, “Philip (1:44-51) brought a reluctant Nathaniel to Jesus, and again Jesus’ word converted his hearer into a follower”.

⁴⁸⁵ Vincent (1969: 74-75) argues that, “In the Greek order, *out of Nazareth* stands first in the sentence as expressing the prominent thought in Nathanael’s mind, surprise that Jesus should have come from Nazareth, a poor village, even the name of which does not occur in the OT”. Cf. Hendriksen, 1961: 1: 109; Carson, 1991: 157-66; Kanagaraj, 2005: 89-94; Newman and Nida, 1980: 47-53; Blomberg, 2001: 82-5; Painter, 1993: 184-5.

⁴⁸⁶ Wallace (1996: 489-90) considers this expression as a conditional imperative. He says: “If Ἐρχου is conditional, then the trailing imperative bears the force of a future indicative: ‘If you come, you will see’”.

⁴⁸⁷ See Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Barrett, 1978: 183; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Moloney, 1998: 55-62.

<p>v.44: ἦν δὲ ὁ Φίλιππος ἀπὸ Βηθσαϊδᾶ, ἐκ τῆς πόλεως Ἀνδρέου καὶ Πέτρου.</p> <p>v.45: εὗρίσκει Φίλιππος τὸν Ναθαναὴλ καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ, "Ὁν ἔγραψεν Μωϋσῆς ἐν τῷ νόμῳ καὶ οἱ προφῆται εὐρήκαμεν, Ἰησοῦν υἱὸν τοῦ Ἰωσήφ τὸν ἀπὸ Ναζαρέτ.</p> <p>v.46: καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Ναθαναήλ, Ἐκ Ναζαρέτ δύναται τι ἀγαθὸν εἶναι; λέγει αὐτῷ [ὁ] Φίλιππος, Ἔρχου καὶ ἴδε.</p> <p>v.47: εἶδεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὸν Ναθαναήλ ἐρχόμενον πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ λέγει περὶ αὐτοῦ, Ἴδε ἀληθῶς Ἰσραηλῆτης ἐν ᾧ δόλος οὐκ ἔστιν.</p> <p>v.48: λέγει αὐτῷ Ναθαναήλ, Πόθεν με γινώσκεις; ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Πρὸ τοῦ σε Φίλιππον φωνῆσαι ὄντα ὑπὸ τὴν συκὴν εἰδὼν σε.</p> <p>v.49: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ Ναθαναήλ, Ῥαββί, σὺ εἶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ, σὺ βασιλεὺς εἶ τοῦ Ἰσραήλ.</p> <p>v.50: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Ὅτι εἰπὼν σοι ὅτι εἰδὼν σε ὑποκάτω τῆς συκῆς, πιστεύεις; μείζω τούτων ὄψη.</p> <p>v.51: καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὅψεσθε τὸν οὐρανὸν ἀνεωγμένον καὶ τοὺς ἀγγέλους τοῦ θεοῦ ἀναβαλίνοντας καὶ καταβαλίνοντας ἐπὶ τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.</p>	<p>(2) The slot has ten utterance units: five are Jesus (vv. 43b, 47b, 48b, 50, 51), two are of Philip (vv. 45b, 46b), and three are of Nath (vv. 46a, 48a, 49);</p> <p>(3) The dialogue develops in a three layer <i>first</i>, between Jesus and Philip (vv. 43-44); <i>second</i>, between Philip and Nathanael (vv. 46); and <i>third</i>, between Jesus and Nathanael (47-51);</p> <p>(4) While the first layer of dialogue (vv. 43 implicit in nature, the second (vv. 45-46) as third (vv. 47-51) layers are explicit;</p> <p>(5) The dialogue is interwoven in narrative narratives with intent (vv. 43a, 44) and for narrative (vv. 43b, 45a, 46a, 46b, 47a, 48a, 49a, 50a, 51a).</p>
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Table 7: The dialogue of 1:43-51

As a third layer, another explicit dialogue develops between Jesus and Nathanael (vv. 47b-51). While Jesus identifies Nathanael as the "true Israelite" (ἀληθῶς Ἰσραηλῆτης, v. 47b), he responds by asking a question about his source of knowledge (πόθεν με γινώσκεις, v. 48a).⁴⁸⁸ Robertson (1932: 30) is right in saying that "Nathanael is astonished at this tribute of knowledge about himself by Jesus. He had overheard Christ's comment and longed to know its source". Jesus' revelation of his knowledge further astonishes Nathanael (v. 48b).⁴⁸⁹ The recognition of Jesus about him prompts Nathanael's confession: "Rabbi, you are the Son of David. You are the King of Israel!" (Ῥαββί, σὺ εἶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ, σὺ βασιλεὺς εἶ τοῦ Ἰσραήλ, v. 49).⁴⁹⁰ Thompson, 1988: 16-7; Van Hartingsveld, 1980: 29-34).⁴⁹⁰ The narrator arranges Jesus' utterance into two layers:⁴⁹¹ *first*, Jesus raises a question concerning Nathanael's belief about him that he is going to see greater things (v. 50); and *second*, he says that Nathanael is going to see the heaven opened, and angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man (v. 51).⁴⁹² A paradigmatic reader⁴⁹³ of the story may notice the following two things

⁴⁸⁸ Ἴδε is an exclamation (cf. 1:29) as often as Ἰδοὺ (see Robertson, 1932: 30). Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 82-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 47-53; Painter, 1993: 184-5.

⁴⁸⁹ Robertson (1932: 30; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 83) states that, "'Being under the fig tree', accusative participle agreeing with σε. The fig tree was a familiar object in Palestine, probably in leaf at this time, the αὐτῷ with ὑπό may suggest that Nathanael had withdrawn there for prayer". See Bennema, 2009: 47-52; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7.

⁴⁹⁰ Cf. Painter, 1993: 185; Bultmann, 1971: 107; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Barrett, 1978: 183-6; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Köstenberger, 2004: 83-4.

⁴⁹¹ The narrator distinguishes Jesus' last two sayings with the help of narratorial notes (see, ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, v. 50a; and καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ, v. 51a).

⁴⁹² Painter (1993: 187-88) says that, "with the introduction of 1:51 the miracle (sign) of 2:1-11 can no longer be seen as the fulfilment of the promise (of 1:50). What is promised in 1:51 is a vision of the heavenly Son of Man".

semantic level of the story (cf. Louw, 1992: 17-20): *first*, the recruitment of the disciples is continued from the previous slot (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 56-9);⁴⁹⁴ and *second*, Jesus' identity is further revealed through more christological titles (i.e., 'about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote', 'Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth', 'King of Israel', and 'Son of Man'; cf. Plastaras, 1972: 70-1).⁴⁹⁵ According to Dodd (1963: 312), ". . . the original *Sitz im Leben* for the formation of this dialogue is the Christian mission in controversy with Jewish opposition". The use of the fulfillment formulas and the christological titles reveal this factor. The role of the narrator is obvious in vv. 43-45a, 46a, 46b, 47a, 48a, 48b, 49a, 50a, and 51a.⁴⁹⁶ The content and the meaning of the dialogue are amplified by the help of the narratorial framework of the slot.⁴⁹⁷

As in the case of the third slot, in the fourth slot also the content and form are interweaved together.⁴⁹⁸ The plot structures of both the third and the fourth slots,⁴⁹⁹ as Stibbe (1993: 39) says, "share the same formal characteristics ('the call story')", as follows: *first*, the *implicit dialogues* (v. 43b; cf. vv. 36-37; cf. Painter, 1993: 184-85; Blomberg, 2001: 82-85) at the beginning of both the

exaltation to heaven by way of the cross is in focus in this gospel, but finds fulfillment in no single event such as 2:1-11". Morris (1995: 150-51; cf. Walker, 1994: 31-42) explains the expression 'Son of Man' in the following words: "In the gospels it is used by Jesus as his favourite self-designation, occurring in this way over 80 times. Nobody else ever uses it of him except Stephen (Acts 7:56) and the people in this Gospel who ask who Jesus means by the term (12:34)". Dodd (1960: 294; cf. Neyrey, 2009: 87-106) says that, "The mysterious language about the open heaven and the ascending and descending angels is to be understood . . . on the basis of Jewish exegesis of Jacob's vision, in which it is brought into connection with the Isaianic Servant of the Lord". Cf. Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Barrett, 1978: 183-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30.

⁴⁹³ Stibbe (1993: 15-6; cf. Kermode, 1979: chap. 1) distinguishes among three kinds of readers: first, *the historical readers* (or original readers) whom the author was addressing in the first century; second, *the first-time readers* are simply newcomers to John's story, people who are reading the gospel for the first time; and third, the paradigmatic readers: It is only as first-time readers progress to a constant re-reading that they start to become aware of the deep subtleties of John's storytelling.

⁴⁹⁴ Neyrey (2007: 56) says, "No volunteers ever succeed in becoming disciples, not even the Greeks in 12:20-22".

⁴⁹⁵ While the titles 'Rabbi' and 'Son of God' are already used in the previous slots, 'one about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote', 'son of Joseph from Nazareth', 'King of Israel' and 'Son of Man' are appearing at the first time in relation to Jesus in John. Van der Watt (2007: 13) says, ". . . the calling of the disciples offers a show window for who Jesus is: It is he who is the Rabbi-teacher (1:38, 49), the Messiah-Christ (1:41), the one of whom Moses and the prophets wrote (1:45), Jesus of Nazareth, son of Joseph (1:45), the Son of God (1:49), King of Israel (1:49), and Son of man on whom the angels will ascend and descend (1:51). Through these names and titles Jesus is introduced in a colorful and varied way to the reader who now knows exactly who this Jesus is".

⁴⁹⁶ Cf. Brown, 1966: 81-91; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Barrett, 1978: 183; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42.

⁴⁹⁷ The narrator adds information like 'the time of the dialogue' ("the next day", v. 43), 'Jesus' decision to move toward Galilee' (v. 43), 'his finding of Philip' (v. 43), 'the whereabouts of Philip, Andrew, and Peter' (v. 44), 'Philip's finding of Nathanael' (v. 45a), and 'Nathanael's coming toward Jesus' (v. 47a). Along with these, the narrator uses his usual formula narratives (cf. vv. 42b, 45a, 46a, 46b, 47a, 48a, 48b, 49a, 50a, and 51a).

⁴⁹⁸ Via (1967; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 24) states that, the *content* and *form* of a literary work are inseparable.

⁴⁹⁹ Moore (1989: 14; cf. Lincoln, 2000: 159; Stibbe, 1994b: 32-53; Brant, 2004: 32-42) states that, "Utilising insights that go back at least to Aristotle, we can define a plot as a set of events linked by temporal succession and causality". Stibbe (1993: 39) opines that the imitation of the plot structure of vv. 35-42 in vv. 43-51 "suggests that the two stories are to be linked together". The succession of the slots and layers of dialogues within slots coupled with movements and acts of the characters and the cause of the dialogues, movements, and acts enable the development of the plot structure.

slots share formal resemblances;⁵⁰⁰ *second*, Andrew and Peter from *Bethsaida* in the third slot shares resemblances with Philip from *Bethsaida* in the fourth (v. 44); *third*, the two disciples [Andrew and the anonymous one] *heard about* and *followed* Jesus in the third slot with Jesus calling Philip and invites him to *follow* in the fourth (v. 44b; cf. v. 37); *fourth*, Jesus' saying *come and see*⁵⁰¹ to the two disciples with Philip's saying *come and see* to Nathanael (v. 46b; cf. v. 37; Smith, 2005: 206-11); *fifth*, Andrew's saying "*we have found the Messiah*" with Philip's saying "*we have found the one Moses wrote about*" (v. 45; cf. v. 41); *sixth*, Jesus' call of Simon Peter as *the Rock* with his description of Nathanael as *a true Israelite* (v. 47; cf. v. 42);⁵⁰² and *seventh*, the two disciples' addressing of Jesus as *Rabbi* with Nathanael's *Rabbi* addressing (v. 49; cf. v. 49). John 1:43-51, a chain of talk-units develops, i.e., between Jesus and Philip (v. 43b), Philip and Nathanael (vv. 45-46), and Nathanael and Jesus (vv. 47-51). Just as Andrew brought Philip to Jesus, in the fourth slot Philip brings Nathanael to Jesus (vv. 46-47a; cf. v. 42); just as Jesus called Philip about Peter (v. 42), here Nathanael utters about Jesus (v. 49).⁵⁰³ The linguistic and ideational phenomena of the two slots are synonymous with one another (cf. Funk, 1988: 11-12; Miller, 1984/1989: 37-44). The grouping of similar words and styles in these two slots are syntactically arranged by the narrator aiming toward the plot structure of the story (cf. Du Toit, 2009: 72).⁵⁰⁴ A strategic ordering of information is actualised by the narrator through the contextual display of utterances, actions and events in the slot (cf. Brant, 2004: 33; see Table 7).⁵⁰⁵

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Command, call for following	Jesus calls Philip to follow
Philip	Information, testimony, proclamation, irony, statement of fulfillment	Found one about whom Moses and Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth
Nathanael	Surprise question, proverbial statement, irony, misunderstanding	Can anything good come out of Nazareth?
Philip	Invitation	Come and see
Jesus	Identity/personality declaration	Nathanael is truly an Israelite in whom no deceit
Nathanael	Surprise question, misunderstanding	Where did Jesus get to know Nathanael?
Jesus	Clarification, revelation/disclosure of fact	Jesus saw Nathanael under the fig tree before Philip called him
Nathanael	Christological utterance, confession, belief statement	Jesus is Rabbi, the Son of God, and the Messiah of Israel
Jesus	Question, promise, prophesy	Nathanael's belief on the basis of Jesus' utterance is questioned; Nathanael is going to see more things
Jesus	Veracity statement, promise, prophesy, apocalyptic and revelatory statements	Nathanael is going to see heaven opened and the ascending and descending of the Son of Man

Table 8: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 1:43-51

⁵⁰⁰ Cf. Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Brown, 1966: 81-91.

⁵⁰¹ "Come and See" phraseology is a usual Johannine usage to invite to a new scene or situation (also see v. 39).

⁵⁰² See Brown, 1966: 1: 81-91; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Stibbe, 1993: 39; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87.

⁵⁰³ See Brown, 1966: 1: 81-91; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Barrett, 1978: 183-6.

⁵⁰⁴ The semantic and syntactic groupings within the NT writings are emphasized by Du Toit (2009: 269-72). (1980: 40) takes up the aspect of "syntactic relationships between sections" in the narrative analysis.

⁵⁰⁵ For more details about the aspect of *cohesion* in poetry read, Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 21.

At the beginning of the third slot, John the Baptist was *standing* (i.e., εἰστήκει) with two of his disciples (v. 35), but in the fourth slot, Jesus decides to go to Galilee (i.e., ‘going out’, ἐξελθεῖν, *on a move*). Jesus’ *movement* over against John’s *standing* can be considered as a narratorial tactic in order to contrast the advancing mission of Jesus with the culmination of John’s witnessing (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 42; Michaels, 1984/1989: 37-44).⁵⁰⁶ Jesus’ *statement*, “an Israelite in whom there is no deceit”, communicates with the reader about the character of Nathanael (v. 47b).⁵⁰⁷ Nathanael’s *surprised question*, how does Jesus know him, is answered by an even more surprising affirmation (v. 48). His *confession*, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”, is marked with christological inferences.⁵⁰⁸ Here the dialogue proper is framed by making use of several other devices like *interrogations* (vv. 46, 48), *exclamations* (vv. 47, 48, 49), *historic present* (v. 45),⁵⁰⁹ ‘Amen, Amen’ formula (v. 51), and *apocalyptic saying* (v. 51; cf. Neyrey, 2009: 105; see Table 8).⁵¹⁰ Philip’s comment to Nathanael, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote”, is a vivid example of the *promise to fulfillment formula*.⁵¹¹ Nathanael’s question “Can anything good come from Nazareth?” sounds like a local *proverb* (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 42; Drewermann, 2003: 84-98).⁵¹²

⁵⁰⁶ A noticeable thing is that as Jesus takes control in the rest of the gospel story, the role of John the Baptist as the witness diminishes. See Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30.

⁵⁰⁷ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 90) comments that, “. . . the reference is not primarily to the true Israel but to the inner disposition associated with the knowledge of the true God as this is found in Israel”. Cf. Kanagaraj, 2005: 89-94; Newman and Nida, 1980: 47-53; Blomberg, 2001: 82-5; Carson, 1991: 157-66; Painter, 1993: 184-5.

⁵⁰⁸ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 91; cf. Smith, 1999: 76-77) opines that, “Both ‘Son of God’, with which he acknowledges Jesus (whom he addresses as ‘Rabbi’: cf. vs. 38), and ‘King of Israel’ are intended—in line with Old Testament predictions and Jewish expectations—as messianic titles (cf. 2 Sam 7:14; Psalm 2:7; Matthew 16:16; Rom 1:14)”. It is a narrative technique of introducing the nature of characters through their dialogues. Moloney (1998: 61; Barrett, 1978: 185-6; Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 317-9; Pancaro, 1975: 288-304) says that, “Many commentators regard Nathanael’s confession as the final and correct confession of faith from the first disciples”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Barrett, 1978: 183-6; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8.

⁵⁰⁹ The use of *historic present* makes the narrator convey a live message with the reader. Stibbe (1993: 41) opines that, “By having characters speaking in the present tense, the Gospel recreates the living aspect of speech characteristics of oral storytelling”.

⁵¹⁰ See Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7.

⁵¹¹ Jesus as the fulfillment of the Law of Moses and Prophets is being introduced (cf. v. 45). Koester (1990: 30) says, “The encounter between Jesus and Nathanael unfolds through a subtle interweaving of OT allusions”. Koester (1990: 30) further says, “Philip introduced the theme of scriptural fulfillment when he declared, ‘We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote’ (1:45). The echoes of Jacob stories have long been recognised, but Zech 3:8 and 10 also play a pivotal role in the narrative”.

⁵¹² Moloney (1998: 61) says that, “The proverbial nature of this question suggests that it may have been a common enough saying. However, there is no evidence for such a proverb outside John 1:46”. Other examples of Johannine proverbs are: 2:10; 3:8; 4:35, 37, 44; 12:24, 25a; 13:16; 15:13, 20.

to C, and C to A format.⁵²⁰ It begins with Jesus' statement to Philip at v. 43 and ends with another statement of Jesus to Nathanael (v. 51). The chain of conversations maintains a cyclical formula as the initiator himself concludes the dialogue (v. 43b and v. 51).

The revelatory nature of the dialogue contributes to the functional aspects of the slot.⁵²¹ Three prominent characters of the story, i.e., Jesus, Philip, and Nathanael, through their utterances, actions, and movements reveal the role of the protagonist.⁵²² The revelatory function of the dialogue is dominant at three levels: *first*, the words of Philip reveal the prophetic and fulfillment role of Jesus (v. 45); *second*, the words of Nathanael reveal the messianic role of Jesus (v. 49); and *third*, the words of Jesus reveal his apocalyptic and eschatological role as the Son of Man (v. 51).⁵²³ The aspect of the 'divinity of Jesus' is emphasized (cf. vv. 45, 49, 50, 51) over against his humanity as 'son of Joseph from Nazareth' (v. 45).⁵²⁴ The repeated references about the revelation (and the 'divinity of Jesus') persuade the reader to believe and follow him. The presentation of the plot by way of semantic and syntactic phenomena helps to involve the reader pragmatically into the story (cf. Drewermann, 2003: 84-98; Michaels, 1984/1989: 37-44).⁵²⁵ Robbins (1996: 1) opines that, "texts are performances of language" and in John, the performance of language is convincingly brought out through the appearance of dialogues. The performative function of the story is more obvious through the present tense verbal forms used in the dialogue (cf. vv. 43b, 45b, 46, 47a, 48a, 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b) than through the past tense verbal forms in the narrative (cf. vv. 43a, 44-45a, 46a, 46b, 47a, 48a, 48b, 49a, 50a, 51a).⁵²⁶ According to Warren and Wellek (1955: 12), "It [i.e., literary language] has its expressive side; it conveys the tone and attitude of the speaker or writer . . . it also wants to influence the attitude of the reader, persuade him, and ultimately change him". The attitudes of the characters and the narrator are expressed through their verbal exchange in active voice format.⁵²⁷ This feature of the language of the story makes the

⁵²⁰ The character movements and the breaks within the narrative form a three layer dialogue in vv. 43-51. The characters are: A = Jesus; B = Philip; and C = Nathanael.

⁵²¹ Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 82-5; Painter, 1993: 184-5; Carson, 1991: 157-66; Newman and Nida, 1980: 47-53.

⁵²² Though Philip and Nathanael are active characters within the slot, Jesus' character is foregrounded as the central figure of the story. See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8.

⁵²³ While the three characters dialogue at the three layers of the slot, their utterance units foreground Jesus. Similarly, the point of view of the narrator is supportive to the point of view of the protagonist. Cf. Painter, 1993: 184-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 47-53; Carson, 1991: 157-66; Blomberg, 2001: 82-5.

⁵²⁴ Jesus' disciple-making initiative, his ironic role as the Son of God, and his involvement as a rhetoric dialoguer are some of the important highlights of the story.

⁵²⁵ The semantic domains coupled with the syntactic aspects of the story (as outlined in the 'content' and 'form' sections above) persuade the reader, not merely to remain as a reader but, as a person who gets involved in the story. Read more about the semiotic aspects, Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 240-2; Baldick, 1990: 201-2.

⁵²⁶ While the narratorial language represents mostly 'past tense' verbal forms (i.e., 'decided', 'found', 'said', v. 43; 'found', 'said', v. 44; 'found', 'said', v. 45; 'said' (x 2), v. 46; 'saw', 'said', v. 47; 'asked', 'answered', v. 48; 'replied', v. 49; 'answered', v. 50; and 'said', v. 51), the dialogic language uses mostly 'present tense' verbal forms (i.e., 'follow', 43b; 'come', 'see', v. 46; 'is' (x 2), v. 47b; 'to know', v. 48a; 'are' (x 2), v. 49; 'do you believe' [also future: 'you will see'], v. 50; 'I tell you', [also future: 'you will see'], v. 51). Cf. Chatman, 1978: 63.

⁵²⁷ While the narrative section dominates in vv. 35-42, in vv. 43-51, the dialogic section dominates over the narrative. See Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7.

reader feel the contemporaneity of it. The narrator's language is impressive to the reader. Harrop (1992: 10) rightly puts it, "What impresses the audience is gestures, movements, and images".⁵²⁸ Jesus' disciple-making process is continued and new characters like Philip and Nathanael are added to his nucleus group.⁵²⁹

In the slot, Jesus' role as an interactive, disciple-making, and revelatory figure is brought conspicuously to the notice of the reader.⁵³⁰ Profound themes, like discipleship, promise and fulfillment, and christological themes and titles (see vv. 45b, 49, 50, and 51), are well introduced through dialogic layers.⁵³¹ The reader is brought to the level of thinking that utterances and dialogues are used primarily to promote discipleship and the mission of discipleship. Moreover, at the *rhetorical-emancipatory paradigm*⁵³² of the text, the reader is involved in discipleship and disciple-making. The three-layer development of the dialogue marks the unravelling or resolution of the plot-structure (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 205; Schmidt, 2000: 51-52).

1.2.5. Slot Five (2:1-12)

While the former four slots focus on the identity of Jesus through 'dialogue', the focus of the fifth slot is revelation of Jesus' identity through 'dialogue' and 'action' (cf. Schmidt, 2000: 57-60; Hartingsveldt, 1980: 35-38).⁵³³ As a continuation of the anaphora (1:29, 35, 43), here the narrator begins the narrative by indicating the aspect of time, καὶ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ τρίτῃ ('on the third day'; cf. McHugh, 2009: 176; Brown, 1966: 1: 97).⁵³⁴ In the first Cana⁵³⁵ narrative (2:1-12; cf. 4:46-

⁵²⁸ Harrop (1992: 10) further says that, "These become, in the language of semiotics, the 'signs' that theatre creates and which the audience recognises". In John's narratives, signs of the characters play a vital role for conveying meaning to the readers. The movement of Jesus from Judea to Galilee, Philip's following, his finding of Nathanael, the dialogue with him, Nathanael's coming toward Jesus, and his sitting under the fig tree are important aspects that contribute to the process of reading.

⁵²⁹ While Andrew, the anonymous disciples of John, and Peter were the followers on the third day, Philip and Nathanael are added to the group on the fourth day. Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Barrett, 1978: 183-6.

⁵³⁰ When the story develops from vv. 35-42 to vv. 43-51, the narrator introduces Jesus as a communicative and interactive personality.

⁵³¹ See Bennema, 2009: 47-52, 64-8; Barrett, 1978: 183-6; Köstenberger, 2004: 78-87; Brown, 1966: 81-91; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 55-7; Moloney, 1998: 55-62; Stibbe, 1993: 39-42; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 27-30.

⁵³² Fiorenza (2001: 43-44; cf. Fiorenza, 1992) considers several paradigms during the process of feminist hermeneutics such as 'the Doctrinal-Revelatory paradigm', 'the "Scientific"-Positivist paradigm', 'the Hermeneutical paradigm', and 'the Rhetorical-Emancipatory paradigm'. The Rhetorical-Emancipatory paradigm "is much interested in dogmatic proof, spiritual edification, scientific facts, or cultural sublimation. Rather, it involves the way in which biblical texts exercise influence and power in social and religious life".

⁵³³ In chapter two, two deeds of Jesus are in view (vv. 1-12; 13-22). A group of witnesses or "walk-on" characters include the family members, the servants, disciples of Jesus, and mostly the invited guests of the wedding. Stibbe (1996: 1: 103) says about a primitive tradition with dialogue as part of the story. He says: "the evangelist has only those snatches of dialogue that served his theological purpose, thus leaving us with an incomplete and unbalanced account when we try to pry beneath the theological level".

⁵³⁴ Bernard (1929: 72; cf. Robertson, 1932: 33; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 99) says that, "Jesus reached Cana on the day after the call of Philip and Nathanael (1:43), when a start was made from the neighbourhood of Beth-

Kermode, 1987: 449; Olsson, 1974: 18), the narrator incorporates movements and actions of the characters, the central event [i.e., the turning of water into wine], and the dialogues within the narratorial framework.⁵³⁶ The role of Mary is introduced as the initiator of the dialogue in order to solve a problem (cf. Moloney, 1998: 67; Drewermann, 2003: 99-118).⁵³⁷ She begins the dialogue by bringing an important concern before Jesus,⁵³⁸ i.e., the lack of wine at a wedding banquet (v. 3b; she says, οἶνον οὐκ ἔχουσιν).⁵³⁹ Jesus' question to her (i.e., τί ἐμοὶ καὶ σοί, γύναι;, v. 4a)⁵⁴⁰ coupled with the enigmatic statement (i.e., οὐπω ἦκει ἡ ὥρα μου, v. 4b; cf. 7:30; 8:20; 12:27) prove the fact that he works under a 'greater authority' and he is 'obedient to a higher voice' (cf. Brant, 2011: 56-57; Plastaras, 1972: 73-80).⁵⁴¹ Neyrey (2007: 63) says, "When Jesus declares that 'my hour has not yet come', this speaks of God's providential orchestration of Jesus' high status as he begins his return to God and glory". When Mary turns to the servants and commands them to do whatever Jesus *tells* them (v. 5; ὅ τι ἂν λέγῃ ὑμῖν ποιήσατε), it reveals her confidence in the

Galilee. This is a journey that would occupy two days (1:28), and no incident is recorded of the last day of travel". Mlakuzhyil (1987: 146-47; cf. Brant, 2011: 55) indicates the way John 2:1-11 distinguishes it from the previous slots, both in the literary-chronological indication and the characteristic vocabulary. For more details about the "telling time" in the FG, refer to Neyrey, 2007: 62.

⁵³⁵ Strange (1992: 1: 827; cf. McHugh, 2009: 177) says that Cana of Galilee is "a village mentioned in the gospel of John. It was called 'of Galilee' probably to distinguish it from the Kanah of Asher in the territory of Tyre". Three sites have been suggested as the probable location of Cana of Galilee: *Ain Qana*, 1.5 km N of Nazareth next to the village of Reina; *Kafr Kanna*, also known as Kefr Kenna, a major village about 5 km NE of Nazareth; and *Khirbet Qana*, a small ruin on a prominent mountain spur about 14 km N of Nazareth. Of the three, only Khirbet Qana has the consensus of scholarship. See Strange, 1992: 1: 827; Bernard, 1929: 1: 72; Köstenberger, 2004: 91-2.

⁵³⁶ Jesus' figure is brought in, in an entirely different way, as an invited guest, a performer of signs, a glorious figure, and the one who stayed together with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples as a human.

⁵³⁷ Painter (1993: 189-91) considers Mary as a "quester" and discusses the implicit nature of the narrative framework of the story.

⁵³⁸ Cf. Carson, 1991: 166-75; Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Painter, 1993: 189-92; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63.

⁵³⁹ Robertson (1932: 34; cf. Mark 10:21) states that, "Genitive absolute with first aorist active participle of ὑστερέω, old verb from ὑστερός, late or lacking". Jones (2008: 7; cf. McHugh, 2009: 179) says that, "Families saved for a lifetime to afford wedding celebrations, which lasted for days, and the family honor rested on the abundance it provided The mother of Jesus (not being neither meek nor timorous) simply steps up and lays her concern before him: 'They have no wine' (v. 3)". Seesemann (1967: 5: 163) states that, "On the one side decisive attention may be paid only to the literal account, while on the other reference is made to the need to take into account the nature of the Johannine miracles as signs, and a deeper meaning is sought. On the latter view the question of historicity is secondary and the main point is to understand the symbolism which seems to be present in the miraculous provision of wine".

⁵⁴⁰ Jones (2008: 8; cf. Reinhartz, 1994: 569; Brown, 1966: 1: 99; Köstenberger, 2004: 94; Morris, 1995: 158; Plastaras, 1972: 73-80) opines that, "Much has been written about the way Jesus addresses his mother, 'woman', not by name or title. This form of address was not disrespectful, and there is no scriptural evidence that he was annoyed or speaking sharply to her. The iconic image of 'woman' rather suggests that she is not just his mother but also a symbol". Culpepper (1983: 133) records that, "She [Mary] has been seen as representing Judaism, Jewish Christianity, the new Eve, and the Church".

⁵⁴¹ Bernard (1929: 75-6; cf. McHugh, 2009: 182; Nicol, 1972: 128; Morris, 1995: 158-60; Culpepper, 1983: 133) says that it "means primarily, in this context, that the moment had not come for Jesus to intervene; that He was conscious of the failure of the wine, and did not need to be reminded of it. At the proper moment, He would act, if necessary". Reinhartz (1994: 568) says, "The first part of Jesus' response is a Semitism, meaning literally 'What to me and to you, woman?' The second part of his response, that the hour (of glorification; cf. 12:23) has not yet come, provides some justification for this detachment". Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Carson, 1991: 166-75; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Painter, 1993: 189-92.

‘telling’ character of Jesus.⁵⁴² Semantically, the first two layers of dialogue (vv. 3-4 and 5) emphasise the major concerns like ‘lack of wine’ (v. 3b), ‘Jesus’ waiting for the hour’ (v. 4), ‘Mary’s confidence in Jesus’ telling’ (v. 5; cf. Reinhartz, 1994: 568; Van Hartingsveldt, 1993: 38). The narrator of the story amplifies these concerns with the help of narratorial notes (vv. 3a and 4a). The implied nature of the dialogue is brought to the notice of the reader: as Mary speaks to the servants and the servants remain silent in the second layer (v. 5); but they respond to Jesus’ commands through the action in the third layer (vv. 7-8). The narratorial notes and the explicit and implicit dialogues bring the reader toward a situation of suspense at the first half of the chapter (see Table 9). The second layer of dialogue is followed by a symbolic narration about the sign of the jars (cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 100; Hakola, 2005: 87-9; see Table 9).⁵⁴³

John 2:1-12	Overview
v.1: Καὶ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ τρίτῃ γάμος ἐγένετο ἐν Κανὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας, καὶ ἦν ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἐκεῖ. v.2: ἐκλήθη δὲ καὶ ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν γάμον. v.3: καὶ ὑστερήσαντος οἴνου λέγει ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ πρὸς αὐτόν, Οἶνον οὐκ ἔχουσιν v.4: [καὶ] λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Τί ἐμοὶ καὶ σοί, γύναι; οὐπω ἤκει ἡ ὥρα μου. v.5: λέγει ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ τοῖς διακόνοις, Ὅτι ἂν λέγῃ ὑμῖν ποιήσατε. v.6: ἦσαν δὲ ἐκεῖ λίθιναι ὑδρίαι ἕξ κατὰ τὸν καθαρισμὸν τῶν Ἰουδαίων κείμεναι, χωροῦσαι ἀνὰ μετρητάς δύο ἢ τρεῖς. v.7: λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Γεμίσατε τὰς ὑδρίας ὕδατος. καὶ ἐγέμισαν αὐτὰς ἕως ἄνω. v.8: καὶ λέγει αὐτοῖς, Ἀντλήσατε νῦν καὶ φέρετε τῷ ἀρχιτρικλίνῳ· οἱ δὲ ἤνεγκαν. v.9: ὡς δὲ ἐγεύσατο ὁ ἀρχιτρικλίνος τὸ ὕδωρ οἶνον γεγεννημένον καὶ οὐκ ᾔδει πόθεν ἐστίν, οἱ δὲ διάκονοι ᾔδεισαν οἱ ἠντληκότες τὸ ὕδωρ, φωνεῖ τὸν νυμφίον ὁ ἀρχιτρικλίνος v.10: καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ, Πᾶς ἄνθρωπος πρῶτον τὸν καλὸν οἶνον τίθησιν καὶ ὅταν μεθυσθῶσιν τὸν ἐλάσσονα· σὺ τετήρηκας τὸν καλὸν οἶνον ἕως ἄρτι. v.11: Ταύτην ἐποίησεν ἀρχὴν τῶν σημείων ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐν Κανὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας καὶ ἐφανερώσεν τὴν δόξαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ. v.12: Μετὰ τοῦτο κατέβη εἰς Καφαρναοὺμ αὐτὸς καὶ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ [αὐτοῦ] καὶ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐκεῖ ἔμειναν οὐ πολλὰς ἡμέρας.	(1) The event happens in a specific setting, τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ τρίτῃ, ἐν Κανὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας (vv. 1-2). (2) There are four layers of dialogue reported in 2:1-11: <i>first</i> , Jesus and Mary (vv. 3b-4); <i>second</i> , Mary and the servants (v. 5); <i>third</i> , Jesus and the servants (vv. 7-8); and <i>fourth</i> , the servants and the bridegroom (vv. 9-10). (3) There are six utterance units recorded in the slot: vv. 3b, 4a, 5a, 7a, 8a, and 10 (see the text). (4) The utterance units are supported by narrative asides (vv. 9b), formula narratives (vv. 1-2, 4a, 5a, 7a, 8a, 10a), and pure narratives (vv. 1-3a, 6, 8b-10, 12).

Table 9: The dialogue of 2:1-12

⁵⁴² Mary’s confidence in Jesus is revealed through her command to the servants, “Do whatever he *tells* you.” This command is a witness for Jesus’ *telling* character. See Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Painter, 1993: 189-92; New Nida, 1980: 55-63; Carson, 1991: 166-75.

⁵⁴³ Jones (2008: 8; cf. Kermode, 1987: 449) says that, “Imbedded in this complex story is the realisation that the old covenant, represented by the water for purification rituals, is being superseded by the new covenant, a covenant that will be celebrated and remembered and recreated with wine”.

Jesus' telling nature is shown to the reader through his imperatives, i.e., γεμίσατε τὰς ὑδρίας ὕδατος and ἀντλήσατε νῦν καὶ φέρετε τῷ ἀρχιτρικλίνῳ (vv. 7-8).⁵⁴⁴ His two commands to the stewards (vv. 7b and 8b) and their action (i.e., οἱ δὲ ἤμεγκαν) in v. 8b make a third layer of dialogue in implicit format. The slot ends with the chief steward's calling of the bridegroom and his final statement in v. 10 (cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 45-49; Plastaras, 1972: 73-80; see Table 9).⁵⁴⁵ Reinhartz (1994: 568; cf. Boice, 1975: 197-204) says that, "... the water has become wine, the quality of which is praised by the chief steward". The chief steward's words are stated in order to surprise the reader about the extraordinary performance of Jesus (cf. Tovey, 1997: 99).⁵⁴⁶ The reader of the story infers a face to face dialogue between the chief steward and the bridegroom. That is implicit within the narration (cf. vv. 9-10). The method of *recapitulation* is employed in v. 11.⁵⁴⁷ Moloney (1998: 69; cf. Nicol, 1972: 122; Painter, 1975: 51) says that, "The tension between the 'not yet' of the hour of Jesus (cf. v. 4) and the 'now' of the miracle story (cf. v. 10) is present in the narrator's comment that in this, the beginning of his signs (v. 11: ἀρχὴν τῶν σημείων), the δόξα of Jesus was manifested, and the disciples believed in him".⁵⁴⁸ As Moloney rightly states, the narrator's bringing together of the themes, like performance of a sign (σημείων), revelation of glory (καὶ ἐφάνερωσεν τὴν δόξαν), and the disciples' belief in Jesus (ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν), is presented by way of a dialogic language and progression (cf. Köstenberger, 1999: 72-4; Brodie, 1993: 171-6).⁵⁴⁹ Thus the content of the fifth slot establishes the revelation of God's glory in Jesus.

⁵⁴⁴ The fifth slot (2:1-11) has a *narration* (vv. 1-3a), an *explicit dialogue* (vv. 3b-4), an *implicit dialogue* (v. 5), a *narration* (v. 6), an *implicit dialogue* (vv. 7-8), a *narration* (v. 9), an *implicit dialogue* (v. 10), and a *narration* (vv. 11-12) sequence. See Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Painter, 1993: 189-92; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63.

⁵⁴⁵ Vincent (1969: 82) says that in every instance of the use of the expression μεθυσθῶσι in the NT the word means intoxication. Cf. Painter, 1993: 189-92; Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Carson, 1991: 166-75; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63. Painter (1993: 191; cf. Lindars, 1972: 131) opines that, "The pronouncement was not made by Jesus but by the ἀρχιτρικλίνος who asserts that, contrary to normal practice, the best wine has been kept until last, literally 'until now' (ἕως ἄρτι), 2:10. In the independent story his pronouncement gave expression to the point of the story, symbolically asserting the drawing of the superior eschatological age".

⁵⁴⁶ Hendriksen (1961: 1: 117) interprets that, "he [the Chief Steward] was greatly surprised to see this wine, and especially was he surprised when he tasted it. It was wine such as he had never tasted before, so excellent in quality". Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 33-6; Barrett, 1978: 188-94; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 65-72; Stibbe, 1993: 42-7; Carson, 1991: 166-75.

⁵⁴⁷ Lindars (1972: 131-2) says that, "Once the point of the story has been reached, nothing further needs to be said. This verse is a comment, presumably adapted from the source, which also contained 4:46-54". See Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Painter, 1993: 189-92; Carson, 1991: 166-75.

⁵⁴⁸ Michaels (1984/1989: 47-8) comments that, "A sense of 'already, but not yet' pervades the narrative. Jesus displays his glory and his disciples come to faith, but only after a clear signal to the reader that this revelation is provisional and not final (v. 4). The proper time for Jesus' 'glorification' is at his death (cf. 12:23; 13:31; 17:1, 5), and that time has not yet come".

⁵⁴⁹ Reinhartz (1994: 568; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 100) is of the opinion that, "The description of Jesus' act as the first of his signs (2:11) is itself seen as a sign that the evangelist selected and edited this and other stories from a written 'signs source' in which these miracles or signs were recounted and numbered". Nicol (1972: 114; cf. Dodd, 1960: 299-300; Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 323) states that, "V. 11b shows that the performing of the sign was at the same time revelation of glory, and as we shall see, the glory is connected with the deeper meaning which John sees in the miracle of the wine".

After analysing the content of the fifth slot, our attempt now is to see the way the form dialogue develops in relation to the content.⁵⁵⁰ The five acts or stages in the plot structure suggested by Hitchcock (1923: 16; cf. Stibbe, 1994: 35; Culpepper, 1983: 89-90),⁵⁵¹ identified as follows: *first*, the beginning: the lack of wine at the wedding banquet; *second*, development towards the central point: Mary's dialogue with Jesus and her command to the servants; *third*, the central point: Jesus' implicit dialogue with the servants and the turning of water into wine; *fourth*, the development toward the end: the steward's tasting of the wine, the revelation of his ignorance and the call of the bridegroom; and *fifth*, the end: the ironic dialogue between the steward and the bridegroom (cf. Boice, 1975: 197-204; Köstenberger, 1999: 72-4).⁵⁵² The way the story develops from the suspense of the first half (vv. 3-5) to the surprise of the second half (vv. 6-11). Resseguie (2001: 177) says that, "Suspense is heightened with the reference to 'the hour' . . . this 'hour', in some way, shapes his point of view and actions" (v. 4b).⁵⁵³ The event 'placed at the centre of the slot (vv. 7-8) is the dividing line between the 'suspense' and the 'surprise'. The plot structure of the story, as indicated above, is inclusive of four layers of dialogue: *first*, between Jesus and Mary (vv. 3b-4);⁵⁵⁴ *second*, between Mary and the servants (vv. 4-5); *third*, between Jesus and the servants (vv. 7-8; cf. Gench, 2007: 11);⁵⁵⁵ and *fourth*, between the steward and the bridegroom (v. 10; see Diagram 7).⁵⁵⁶ The first layer is sustained in the form of an explicit dialogue (vv. 3b-4), but the second, the third, and the fourth layers are ordered as implicit dialogues.⁵⁵⁷ The two layers of dialogues (i.e., vv. 3b-4 and v. 5) in the first half of the story

⁵⁵⁰ It is a difficult task to bifurcate between the form and the content of an artifact. Resseguie (2005: 26; cf. Culpepper, 1986: 2-7; Hellholm, 1986: 17-22; Aune, 1986: 65-91) considers a work of art as a self-contained artifact whose form and content is an organic unity. At the broader level, Stibbe (1993: 46; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 64; Salier, 2007: 2) considers the pericope as a "miracle story".

⁵⁵¹ Hitchcock (1923/1993: 16; quoted in Stibbe, 1994: 35) summarises that, "There is the beginning, the development towards the central point, the central point, the development towards the end, the end".

⁵⁵² All these stages within the story help the reader to follow the narrative step by step. Stibbe (1993: 47) identifies the elements of *comedy* in the plot-structure of John 2:1-11.

⁵⁵³ Thatcher (2001: 269; cf. Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 131-2; Baldick, 1990: 190) considers Jesus' statement "the hour has not yet come" (2: 4b), as a *riddle statement*. He (2001: 271) says that, "the riddles of FG are portrayed in social contexts in which riddles are typically delivered in oral cultures, that is, in dialogues between Jesus and his characters".

⁵⁵⁴ Lieu (1998: 62) opines that, "One of the most striking features of the FG's picture is the evangelist's avoidance of the personal name of the mother of Jesus. She is, throughout, precisely that: the mother of Jesus (2:1, 3) or his mother (2:4, 12; 19:25)". Duke (1985: 50-51) comments about Jesus' statement in v. 4 as follows: "There is an enigma here, hardly verbal irony. While the words Jesus speaks seem incongruent with what he will shortly do". Jones (1998: 10) observes that in the following sequence in the first layer of dialogue: "we have *her insistence* that he command the servants and *his temporary unwillingness* to do so".

⁵⁵⁵ Brant (2004: 87) says that, "Jesus' directions to the servants at the wedding in Cana indicate their actions, which, but not all, the narrator reiterates". For example: "Fill the jars with water" (Jesus' direct speech) is reiterated by "And they filled them up to the brim" (narrative); "Take it to the chief steward" (Jesus' direct speech) is reiterated by "So they took it" (narrative).

⁵⁵⁶ The words of the steward in v. 10 are "presented essentially in the form of a joke". They comprise the plot twist (cf. Duke, 1985: 83). Wallace (1996: 297) comments about the use of the "positive adjective" in v. 10 (the phrase *τὸν καλὸν οἶνον* twice in the verse). See Barrett, 1978: 188-94; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 65-72; Stibbe, 1993: 42-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 33-6; Carson, 1991: 166-75.

⁵⁵⁷ The event order and the narrative order of the dialogue go in parallel line (i.e., without much anachronism). Genette, 1980: 36; Culpepper, 1983: 54. Brant (2004: 87) is right when she talks about Johannine words

orienting the attention of the reader toward the sign/action-centered⁵⁵⁸ and glory-focused dialogue in vv. 7-8.⁵⁵⁹ The slot ends with an ironic dialogue in v. 10.⁵⁶⁰ The order of the dialogues within the slot invites the attention of the reader towards its plot-structure.

Utterance	Form	Content
Mary	Information, implied request	Scarcity of wine
Jesus	Question, response	Jesus' and Mary's concern in the matter; Jesus' time has not yet come
Mary	Command	Servants must do whatever Jesus tells them
Jesus	Command	Fill the jar with water
Jesus	Command	Draw some wine out, and take it to the chief steward
Steward	Surprise statement, information, misunderstanding	The usual practice of serving good wine first and then inferior one is overturned; the question of "why the good wine was kept until the last time?"

Table 10: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 2:1-12

The dialogue structure of the fifth slot can also be analysed with the help of Giblin's sequential theory. Giblin's (1980: 197-211; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 65) literary examination of John classifies some of the stories as sharing a common sequence of stages: a request to Jesus, his negative response, and then his eventual positive action.⁵⁶¹ While narrating the *request-rebuke-response* pattern of dialogue in vv. 3-8, Jesus' 'from above' aspects are brought to the notice of the reader.⁵⁶² Witherington's (1995: 77; cf. Painter, 1993: 156; Boice, 1975: 197-204) critique of Painter is apt to quote here: "Though Painter has seen this story as a quest story, it might be better called a request story, for Mary is not after Jesus, but after obtaining something from Jesus". It is important to notice that the dialogue not only follows a *request-rebuke-response* format (vv. 3-8; cf. 4:46-54) but also ends with an *encomium* (v. 11).⁵⁶³ The narrator's *request-rebuke-response* format achieves

accompany implicit gestures and movements". This feature helps the reader to ponder deep into the implicit tenets of dialogue.

⁵⁵⁸ Gench (2007: 12) makes clear that, "Miracles, in John, are referred to as 'signs', which is to say that their significance lies in that to which they point: the true identity of the one who performed them".

⁵⁵⁹ Koester considers the Cana sign miracle as a 'symbolic' activity. He (1995: 11) says that "the significance of the act is introduced by a conversation". Mlakuzhyil (1987: 149) states that, "it [i.e., 2:1-11] both concludes the introduction and introduces 'the Book of Jesus' Signs', 2:1-11 is a 'bridge-pericope'". Brant (2004: 205, 214) sees the narrator's particular interest in the interior disposition of belief (2:11; cf. 2:22; 4:50, 53; 12:42; 20:8). Also see Carson, 1991: 166-75; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Painter, 1993: 189-92.

⁵⁶⁰ Duke (1985: 83) says that, "the steward is explicitly said to be ignorant of what has happened (v. 9)—the very stuff of dramatic irony".

⁵⁶¹ Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Carson, 1991: 166-75; Painter, 1993: 189-92.

⁵⁶² Köstenberger (2004: 93) says that, "The pattern 'request-rebuke-assistance' occurs elsewhere in the NT (Matthew 15:21-28; cf. John 4:46-54; cf. Carson, 1991: 173), though the specific form 'suggestion-negative response-positive action' seems to be unique to John's Gospel, in each instance wedded to misunderstanding regarding the arrival of Jesus' 'time'". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 188-94; Carson, 1991: 166-75; Stibbe, 1993: 42-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 33-6; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 65-72.

⁵⁶³ Baldick (1990: 67; cf. Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 53-4) defines 'encomium' as "a composition in prose or verse written in praise of some person, event, or idea; a eulogy. Originally denoting a Greek choral song in praise of a

the following goals: *first*, it reveals the identity of Jesus as the performer of signs;⁵⁶⁴ and *second*, it impacts the paradigmatic reader for positive action.⁵⁶⁵ The positive and responsive action at the end of the story can be seen as a disclosure of the glory of Jesus in order to dialogue well with the reader (see Diagram 7).⁵⁶⁶

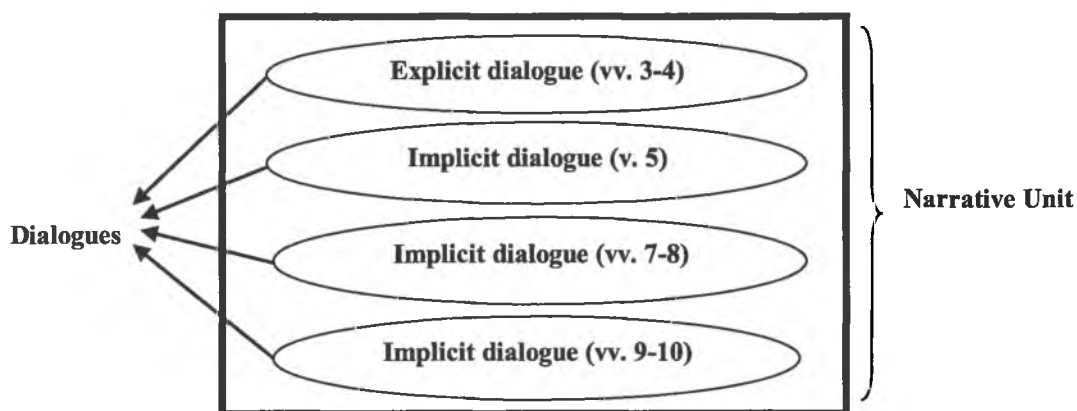


Diagram 7: The four-layer dialogue within the narrative framework

The plot of the story can be structured with the help of utterance forms and literary devices (see Table 10). The narrator's use of the *historic present tense* (λέγει at vv. 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10), the *inclusion* of "Cana of Galilee" (vv. 1 and 11), and the *major inclusion* between the first and second Cana-signs (2:1-11 and 4:46-54) add force to the dramatic and literary style of the story.⁵⁶⁷ The literary components of the story also work together for a forceful dialogue between the text and the reader.⁵⁶⁸ As Powell (1990: 25) says, the implied author guides the reader through the story of a narrator and the narrative devices.⁵⁶⁹ The λέγει (i.e., "saying" in vv. 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10; and λέγει in v. 5) language of the slot reveals the active voice communication of the snippet.

victorious athlete, the term was later extended to include prose compositions devoted to praise, usually in an elaborate rhetoric".

⁵⁶⁴ It is the first time the term *sign* is used in the gospel in v. 11. See Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Painter, 1993: 189-92; Carson, 1991: 166-75; Blomberg, 2001: 85-7.

⁵⁶⁵ Michaels (1984/1989: 48) says that, "The juxtaposition of 1:19-51 and 2:1-11 in the text of John's Gospel is designed to lead the reader to interpret the one in light of the other. Jesus is now 'revealed to Israel' (1:31)".

⁵⁶⁶ Helms (1988: 83-84) makes the comparison that "In the synoptics, faith precedes the miracle; in John, the miracle precedes faith, for Jesus' 'signs' are those things by which he 'revealed his glory [δόξαν] and led his disciples to believe in him' (John 2:11)".

⁵⁶⁷ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 146) notices the way the first Cana-sign is enclosed in a triple inclusion (ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ: 2:1, 11; ὁ Ἰησοῦς: 2:2, 11; οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ: 2:2, 11). Cf. Painter, 1993: 189-92; Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Carson, 1991: 166-75.

⁵⁶⁸ The use of irony within the slot grips the reader within the text. Duke (1985: 113) says, "He who inaugurates the new work with the excellent new wine of joy must in the hour when that work is 'finished' receive bitter wine of sorrow." Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 65-72; Barrett, 1978: 188-94; Stibbe, 1993: 42-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 33-34.

⁵⁶⁹ Powell (1990: 25; cf. Windisch, 1993: 62-3; Muilenburg, 1993: 65-76) considers the 'narrator' as "the voice of the implied author uses to tell the story".

⁵⁷⁰ Cf. Painter, 1993: 189-92; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Carson, 1991: 166-75; Blomberg, 2001: 85-7. For details about the story from a scientific discourse and narrative critical point of view read, Van Tilborg, 1993: 189-92. Tilborg also describes Jesus' familial relationships in John.

narratorial framework of the slot reveals the following format: “On the third day . . .” (v. 1) and “. . . they remained there for a few days” (v. 12). It is similar with the formulaic story-telling style, “Once upon a time . . . and they lived happily ever after” (cf. Brant, 2011: 59).⁵⁷¹ This feature of the narrative is rhetorical as it fosters a dialogic interaction between the narrator and the reader.⁵⁷² The hour- and sign-centered⁵⁷³ and glory-focused⁵⁷⁴ nature of the dialogue generates anticipation of the coming events (cf. Genette, 1980: 40; Culpepper, 1983: 56). In short, the dialogue in 2:1-11 is, in the words of Hitchcock (1993: 17), a “vividly depicted” one by the artistic style of the narrator (cf. Brodie, 1993: 171-6).⁵⁷⁵

After analysing the content and form of the dialogue, our next attempt is to look at the functional dynamics of the slot. The slot brings a transition as it ends an episode of several slots (1:19-2:11) and begins a series of sign stories (2:1-11; cf. 4:46-54; 5:1-18; 6:1-14, 15-21; 9:1-41; 11:1-44).⁵⁷⁶ The story maintains: *first*, an *ordering of events*⁵⁷⁷ by cohesively plots the four layers of dialogue along with the movements and actions of the characters; *second*, *causal links*⁵⁷⁸ with the previous four slots of dialogue through revelatory aspects,⁵⁷⁹ and *third*, *empathy*⁵⁸⁰ by generating positive

⁵⁷¹ In our story-preoccupied gospel criticism, we consider the development of the story within the narrative framework. “Being preoccupied with story means”, Moore (1989: 14) says, “most of all, being preoccupied with *plot* and *character*”. The talk units, movements, and actions of the characters are decisive in determining the plot development of the story. See Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Painter, 1993: 189-92; Blomberg, 2001: 85-7.

⁵⁷² Dodd (1960: 297; cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 149) does not consider 2:1-11 as part of the introduction to the gospel but only as part of the larger section 2:1-4:42. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 188-94; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 65-72; Stibbe, 1993: 42-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 33-6; Carson, 1991: 166-75.

⁵⁷³ Witherington (1995: 79; cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 200) says that, “There is a focus in this gospel on Jesus’ time—the time for decisive action that manifests Christ’s glory and fulfills God’s will”.

⁵⁷⁴ The expression in v. 11 is always used to indicate the passion and glorification of Jesus. Servotte (1992/1994: 13) says that the Cana incident “reveals something valid about Jesus and it is, therefore, a sign of the hidden reality of his being; but it is also a sign of another sign, namely the crucifixion which, in this gospel, is the supreme revelation”. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Painter, 1993: 189-92.

⁵⁷⁵ Hitchcock (1993: 17) says that, “The details are related as by an eye-witness, who succeeds in conveying a distinct impression of aloofness and mediation in the Lord’s manner that prepares one for His subsequent appearance and action in the Temple”.

⁵⁷⁶ Dodd (1960: 297; cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 148-9) does not consider 2:1-11 as part of 1:19-2:11 but only as part of the first episode (2:1-4:42). Dodd’ view cannot be substantiated on account of the following concerns: *first*, 2:1-11 is more attached to the previous slots (through the expression, “on the third day”) than to the “cleansing of the temple” pericope; *second*, the narratorial comment at 2:12 can be considered as a dividing marker between 1:19-2:11 and 2:13-22; *third*, the section 2:1-4:56 cannot be considered as a single episode; one can notice five episodes (2:13-22; 3:1-21; 3:25-30; 4:1-42; 4:46-54; excluding 2:1-11) in this section. Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 65-72; Carson, 1991: 166-75; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 33-6; Stibbe, 1993: 42-7; Barrett, 1978: 188-94.

⁵⁷⁷ The order in which a narrative relates events is important because readers are expected to consider each new episode in light of what has gone before. See Powell, 1995: 224.

⁵⁷⁸ In making sense of a narrative, readers are especially attentive to links that are established between the events that are related. Typical links include explicit or implicit indications that one event causes another to happen or at least make the occurrence of the subsequent event possible or likely. See Powell, 1995: 245.

⁵⁷⁹ The causal links of revelation are seen in the identity question and answers (1:19-28), in the christological titles (1:25-27, 29, 36, 41, 45, 49, 51; 2:5, 10), and the explicit reference of ‘revelation’ (1:31; 2:11).

⁵⁸⁰ The effects that a narrative has on its readers are often determined by the empathy that these readers feel with particular characters in the narrative. Empathy may be realistic in that readers believe they really are like these characters, or idealistic in that the characters have qualities or experiences the readers wish to emulate. Cf. Powell, 1995: 246.

thinking in the reader. All of these characteristics are peculiar to most of the Greco-Roman romances or novels, and biographies (cf. Hock, 1988: 127-46; Hock, 2000: 1008-10). The narrator of the story uses these elements in order to persuade the reader. In the slot, dialogue is used as a literary means in order to communicate the subject matter with rhetorical effects. The direct speeches [or active voice statements] employed in the literary work have more persuasive force than the indirect [or passive voice] statements (see vv. 3b-5, 7-8a, 10; cf. vv. 1-3a, 6, 8b-9, O'Keefe, 2001: 575-83).⁵⁸¹ Mary's request and Jesus' rebuke in the first half of the episode (vv. 3b-4) are identified as the central parts of the dialogue (cf. Drewermann, 2003: 99-111; Hartingsveld, 1980: 35-8).⁵⁸² The narrator recapitulates the entire slot (so also the episode) after introducing the kernel aspects through dialogues of the characters and Jesus' central statement [i.e., the sign].⁵⁸³ The main purpose of the narrative is "revealing the glory" of Jesus (cf. v. 10). The dialogue, and the movements and action of the characters are used in order to facilitate the revelatory function of the slot. The story progresses when a conflict is developed (v. 3a), dialogue takes place (vv. 3b-4, 5, 7-8, 10), an action is performed (vv. 7-8), and an enigmatic utterance occurs (v. 10). The use of external proofs⁵⁸⁴ within the slot has to be seen as evidence to substantiate Jesus' divine claims in the previous four slots.⁵⁸⁵

The *narrator-and-reader* dialogue is at the core of the story as the narrative technique of a 'heart-to-heart' conversation. Thiselton (1992: 1) finds that "readers' interactions and engagement with texts" are important. The use of oral language (in the form of dialogue), progressive structure, literary devices like irony (v. 10), inclusion (vv. 1-2 with v. 11), riddle (v. 4b), and the symbolic role of wine (vv. 3, 9-10) are rhetorical as they invite the attention of the reader to the story. Johannine communication is not only vocal and movement-oriented but also

⁵⁸¹ While the utterance units of the dialogue are put in the active voice (except in the implicit dialogues), the narrator's statements are put in passive voice format.

⁵⁸² Thompson (1992: 379) says that, "A sign is properly understood when it is seen as pointing to God's work through the person of Jesus to effect salvation". See Carson, 1991: 166-75; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 33-6; Stibbe, 1991: 19-20; Barrett, 1978: 188-94; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 65-72.

⁵⁸³ Duke (1985: 90) says that, "The ironic words are no sooner uttered than the curtain quickly falls, leaving the reader to ponder their hidden significance" (cf. 2:10; cf. 7:35; 11:49-50; 12:19).

⁵⁸⁴ Kennedy (1984: 14) states that, "Invention is based on external proofs, which the author uses but does not create. . . . In the New Testament there are three common forms of external proof: quotations of Scripture, the evidence of miracles, and the naming of witnesses, such as John the Baptist or the disciples of Jesus". In John 2:1-11, the narrator uses all these proofs: *first*, allusions from the OT tradition: the old covenant and the Jewish rites of purification implicitly referenced (v. 6); *second*, the evidence of miracle: turning water into wine (vv. 7-8); and *third*, the naming of witnesses: the utterance of Mary, "Do whatever he tells you" (v. 5) and the steward's enigmatic statement (v. 9).

⁵⁸⁵ Salier (2004: 51) says that, "The reader is implicitly invited to join the disciples and draw the same conclusion. See Painter, 1993: 189-92; Neyrey, 2007: 65; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63; Blomberg, 2001: 85-7. Kennedy (1984: 14) opines that, "The miracles performed by Jesus, and to some extent by the apostles as well, function as external evidence. The ordinary New Testament term for a miracle is *semeion*, or sign, and signs are meant to be evidence. Paul as the characteristic form of evidence among the Jews in contrast to wisdom (logical proof) among the Greeks (1 Cor 1:22-23). *Semeion* is a term of Aristotelian rhetoric as well (1.2.1357b), but it is used there to mean a sign or necessary cause for an inference: if a man is just, it is a *sign* that he is wise; if it is raining, it is a *sign* that there are clouds". The "sign" of Jesus is meant to enlighten and convince people that he enjoys the unique role of "Messiah of God", thus giving him honour and glory.

focused (cf. Craig, 2001: 125-37).⁵⁸⁶ The presentation of static characters like servants, steward, and brothers of Jesus brings a sharp conflict with the dynamic characters like Jesus and Mary (cf. Nortjé-Meyer, 2009: 123-43; Boice, 1975: 197-204). Jesus' revealing of his glory by way of the sign exemplifies the highest point of recognition scenes in the episode (cf. Larsen, 2008: 54; Greimas and Courtés, 1982: 256-7).⁵⁸⁷ The implied reader of the story gathers more information about the point of view of Jesus, as Jesus is one who works in his own time and under a different authority, is a performer of signs, and is a revealer of glory. The information gathered from the previous four slots (and also from the first half of the fifth slot) about the protagonist is now convincingly proved by the sign. Mary's role as a witness implicitly refers to Jesus as a "teller" and performer (vv. 3, 5). The utterance of the steward from his ignorance deciphers the glorious act of Jesus (v. 10). The above description outlines the way faith is generated in the disciples' hearts. At the pragmatic level of the story, the narrator persuades the reader to believe in Jesus through the mediation of both the words uttered by the characters and by the sign performed by Jesus.⁵⁸⁸ Thus the language of the four-layer dialogue slot performatively interacts with the reader (cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 141-63). Having investigated the dialogue at the micro-level, in the following section we will look at the dialogues of 1:19-2:11 from the meso-level.

1.3. Meso-Analysis

The description of dialogues in the above section enables us to classify the dialogic trends within John 1:19-2:11 (cf. Schmidt, 2000: 39-69; Tovey, 1997: 215). A detailed analysis of the content, form, and function of the dialogues outlined above guide the reader toward the following observations. The overarching tenet and form of the *first slot* of dialogue (1:19-28) is a *question-and-answer* type.⁵⁸⁹ The content of the dialogue progresses through messianic quests and

⁵⁸⁶ The narrator's emphasis on dialogue, movements of the characters, and their significant actions breathes life to the text. See Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Painter, 1993: 189-92; Carson, 1991: 166-75; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63.

⁵⁸⁷ Culpepper (1983: 84; quoted in Brant, 2004: 50) describes the story of the FG as "a death struggle over the recognition of Jesus as the revealer". Brant (2004: 50; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 84) agree with Culpepper that "*anagnōrisis* permeates the plot". Brant (2004: 50; cf. Lincoln, 2000: 162) says that, "Lincoln criticises Culpepper's use of the term *anagnōrisis* for its lack of resemblance to Aristotle's category because the gospel does not entail a major event that brings new information to light, changing the situation of the protagonist". In the dialogues of the first episode of the BS, recognition of the identity of Jesus is progressively brought to the notice of the reader through the use of christological titles. The revelation of his glory through the sign in the fifth slot substantiates all the messianic claims of the previous slots.

⁵⁸⁸ According to Fiorenza (1987: 387; quoted in Black, 2001: 9-10), ". . . Rhetoric seeks to instigate a change of attitudes and motivations, it strives to persuade, to teach and to engage the hearer/reader by eliciting reactions, emotions, convictions, and identifications. The evaluative criterion for rhetoric is not aesthetics, but praxis". The rhetorical impact of Jesus' sign motivates the disciples and the readers of the story. It also instigates a change of attitude that will be resulted in 'belief'. When talking about the function of literature Warren and Wellek (1955: 21) state: "the utility of literature is a pleasurable seriousness, i.e., not the seriousness of a duty which must be done or of a lesson to be learned but an aesthetic seriousness, a seriousness of perception". Here the aesthetics seriousness of other literary disciplines can be contrasted with the praxis orientedness of rhetoric.

⁵⁸⁹ The dialogue is formed out of five questions of the priests and Levites from Jerusalem and five answers by John the Baptist. See Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-8; Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Dodd, 1963: 251-78; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 21-3; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Carson, 1991: 141-2.

revelatory responses as it reveals that Jesus, not John,⁵⁹⁰ is the promised Messiah.⁵⁹¹ The identity of Jesus, as the “Messiah”, “Lord” (v. 23), “the one who stands among them whom they know” (v. 26), “one who comes after” (v. 27a), and “the superior one” (v. 27b),⁵⁹² is revealed before the reader from the point of view of John the Baptist (see Table 11). The *second slot* (v. 34) is formed as a *two-layered monologue* (i.e., John the Baptist’s ‘declaration’ and a ‘testimony’, vv. 29b-31, 32b-34) in interaction with the extended dialogic framework of the episode. The Johannine phenomenon of dialogue leading to monologue begins here (cf. vv. 5:6-47). Dodd (1963: 251) rightly says that, “The structure of the passage has a resemblance to Johannine patterns, but only so far as it consists of a sustained dialogue (vv. 29-34), followed by a monologue (vv. 35-42), with a short narrative-dialogue (vv. 43-47)”. The continuation of the first slot, the monologue further reveals the identity of Jesus as the “Lamb of God” (v. 29), “the one who comes after but existed before” (v. 30), “the anointed one of God” (v. 33), and “Son of God” (v. 34; see Table 11).⁵⁹³ The revelatory intention of the monologue is made more explicit in v. 31 by the usage of the expression φανερωθῆναι.⁵⁹⁴

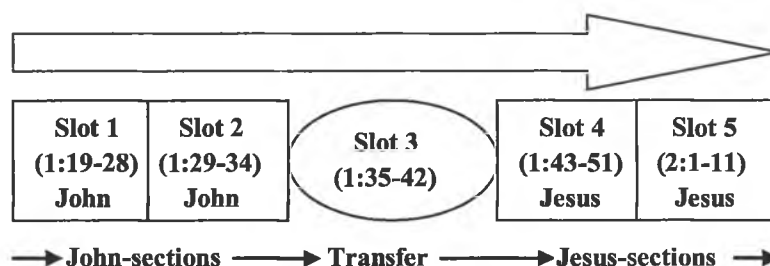


Diagram 8: The plot structure of the episode

⁵⁹⁰ The dialogue begins with revealing the identity of John and finishes with revealing the identity of Jesus. The revelatory aspects are introduced through testimonial or confessional tone (v. 26), promise-to-fulfillment as in v. 23), and ‘A-to-B and B-to-A’ progression.

⁵⁹¹ The dialogue is a fulfillment oriented one as the prophetic statement of Isaiah is placed at the center of it (v. 40). Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 75-7; Barrett, 1978: 170-5; Stibbe, 1993: 31-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 29-30; Dodd, 1963: 251; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 21-3; Painter, 1993: 169-73; Carson, 1991: 141-2.

⁵⁹² The revelatory character of the dialogues is mostly actualised through characterological confessions. Keener (2003: 430) rightly says that, “Different days become the occasion for different confessions: John confesses the coming of the Messiah one day (1:19-28), acknowledges that Jesus is that king on the next day (1:29-34), and sends his own disciples to Jesus on the next day (1:35-39)”. He (2003: 430) continues saying that, “new disciples witness to Jesus, making him a disciple, in both 1:40-42 and (on the next day) 1:43-47, in both cases a self-revelatory encounter with Jesus being the converting factor (as in 4:42). The climactic confession of this section on discipleship comes in 1:43-47, in which Jesus is both Son of God and king of Israel (Messiah), and will further reveal more of heaven to the world”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 184-5; Blomberg, 2001: 82-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 47-53.

⁵⁹³ Maniparampil (2004: 175) says that, “Some ancient manuscripts have ‘the Elect One of God’ which is a title used in Isa 42:1. Son of God is a post-resurrection Christian confession put in the mouth of John the Baptizer. In the Gospel, Jesus is not only the Son of God, but God the Son (1:18; 20:28)”. See Stibbe, 1993: 34-6; Barrett, 1978: 184-5; Dodd, 1963: 269-76; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53.

⁵⁹⁴ Michaels (1984/1989: 33) opines that, “Before the identity of the Coming One could be ‘revealed to Israel’, it had to be revealed to John himself, and John proceeds to tell how that revelation came about”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 184-5; Dodd, 1963: 269-76; Stibbe, 1993: 34-6; Blomberg, 2001: 77-80; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 49-53.

In structure, the *third slot* (1:35-42) is a *four-layered* one, i.e., three implicit dialogues (vv. 36, 41, 42) and one explicit dialogue (vv. 38-39a).⁵⁹⁵ While John [the Baptist] repeats the previous day's testimony that Jesus is the "Lamb of God" (v. 36; cf. 29), Andrew witnesses that he had seen the "Messiah" (v. 41b).⁵⁹⁶ While in the first two slots Jesus is revealed as the "Messiah" in implicit terms, in the third slot Andrew's testimony reveals that explicitly (v. 41b).⁵⁹⁷ In the third slot, while at the first layer of dialogue (v. 36b) John the Baptist is the leading figure (and Jesus is a "walk on" character), from the second layer (vv. 38-39a and 42; in v. 41, Jesus is the topic of dialogue) onward Jesus takes control of the dialogue. Thus a smooth transfer from John the Baptist to Jesus is introduced by way of dialogues (see Diagram 8).⁵⁹⁸ In the broader sense, the *fourth slot* (vv. 43-51) is structured in the form of a *three-layered* dialogue, one implicit dialogue (v. 43b) and two explicit dialogues (vv. 45-46, 47b-51).⁵⁹⁹ The striking point of the dialogue is that it *reveals* the identity of Jesus as "one about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote" (v. 45), "Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth" (v. 45), "Son of God" (v. 49), "King of Israel" (v. 49), and "Son of Man" (v. 51; cf. Boice, 1975: 197-204; Tovey, 1997: 260; see Table 11).⁶⁰⁰ In the words of Culpepper (1983: 90), "Jesus is majestically introduced, John fulfills his role as a witness, and immediately various individuals, most notably an Israelite, begin to follow him. Revelation is taking place, and there is promise of even greater things to come". After Jesus is "majestically introduced", as Culpepper puts it, the narrator now invites the attention of the reader toward the final slot.

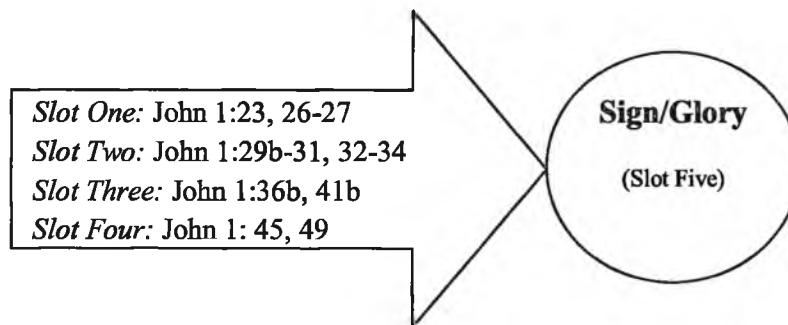


Diagram 9: The dialogic development towards 'Sign'/'Glory'

⁵⁹⁵ See Michaels, 1984/1989: 37-8; Painter, 1993: 183-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5; Carson, 1991: 153-7.

⁵⁹⁶ Smith (1999: 73) observes that, "the Hebrew term transliterated into Greek as *messias*, appears *only* in the Gospel of John, and nowhere else in the New Testament". Cf. Painter, 1993: 183-4; Carson, 1991: 153-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 42-5.

⁵⁹⁷ In the previous two slots, Jesus is not directly referred to as the Messiah. The utterance units of the dialogue (i.e., introductory, v. 36b; question-counter question, v. 38; testimony/information, v. 41b) are contributory toward the revelatory development.

⁵⁹⁸ The first two slots focus on John and his proclamation; in the third slot there is a transfer of ministry from John to Jesus, and in the fourth and fifth slots Jesus is in full control.

⁵⁹⁹ The three-layered dialogue develops as an 'A-to-B, B-to-C, and C-to-A' sequential one, which is cyclical, and promise-to-fulfillment oriented (v. 45). See Painter, 1993: 184-5; Carson, 1991: 157-66.

⁶⁰⁰ The revelatory aspects develop as Philip (v. 45), Nathanael (v. 49), and Jesus himself (v. 51) declares the messianic aspects. See Brant, 2011: 45-59.

As in the case of the third and the fourth slots, the *fifth slot* (2:1-11) is constructed out of la dialogue, one explicit dialogue (vv. 3-4) and three implicit dialogues (vv. 5, 7-8, 10). The *rebuke-response to encomium* format (vv. 4, 5, 10) and the *suspense to surprise* development helpful for the reader to understand the revelatory plot-structure of the dialogue. Some leading themes of the gospel (i.e., 'hour', 'sign', and 'glory'; cf. Tolmie, 1999: 22) appear in the final slot (see Table 11).⁶⁰¹ The revelatory aspects reflected through character dialogues in the previous four slots (especially 1:23, 26-27, 29b-31, 32-34, 36b, 41b, 45, and 49; also in 2:1-11) come in the action format (2:1-11).⁶⁰² The major *revelation* of the slot (as well as the episode) is done through the performance of a sign (see Diagram 9). Thus the narratorial climax at 2:11 (i.e., ἐφανερώσεν τὴν δόξαν αὐτοῦ) is actualised through an array of dialogues and at the climax of the story.

The five acts or stages in the plot structure, suggested by Hitchcock (1923: 16; cf. Stibbe 1935; Culpepper, 1983: 89-90), can be applied to the episode by placing both the transfer of authority from John the Baptist to Jesus and the beginning of disciple-making initiative at the center of the episode as follows: the beginning of the episode is presented through a *question-and-answer dialogue* (1:19-28); the development toward the central point is portrayed through a *two-person monologue* (1:29-34); the central point [i.e., beginning of Jesus' ministry of disciple-making and revelation] is presented through a *four-layered dialogue* (1:35-42); the development toward the end is deciphered through a *three-layered dialogue* (1:43-51); and the end is presented through a *four-layered dialogue* (2:1-11). This analysis helps us to identify the U-shaped plot structure of the episode:⁶⁰³ *first*, at the beginning (vv. 19-28, 29-34), the messianic quests of the priests and the witness of John the Baptist are introduced as the peak points, but in the process of development John is foregrounded while Jesus is in the background, and John's witness remains static without Jesus' public interaction; *second*, at the middle (vv. 35-42), the witness of John's witnessing is brought to the notice of the reader, Jesus comes to the foreground and revealing himself, and disciple-making is initiated; and *third*, at the end (1:43-2:11), Jesus' revelation develops, disciple-making progresses, and at the peak point of the story Jesus' sign is revealed through a sign.⁶⁰⁴ At the bottom of the 'U' the direction is reversed by a twist

⁶⁰¹ Witherington (1995: 81) says that, "The argument of the divinity of Christ has often gone rather like this: *first*, Jesus did stupendous miracles; *second*, only someone with God's own power can do such things; *third*, Jesus is God".

⁶⁰² The dialogue shows *revelatory* features strikingly: *first*, Jesus works under a different authority and in his name (v. 4); *second*, Mary's witness about Jesus, "Do whatever he tells you" (v. 5); and *third*, the quality of Jesus' sign (v. 10). Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 85-7; Painter, 1993: 189-92; Carson, 1991: 166-75; Newman and Nida, 1980: 55-63.

⁶⁰³ U-shaped plots are usually considered as 'comic plots'. Cf. Resseguie, 2005: 205; Chatman, 1978: 62-95. Chatman (1990: 170-71) says, "... most plots will trace some process of change in which characters are caught in a developing conflict that is finally resolved". The revelation of Jesus as the Messiah develops through four situations; from John's witness, to Jesus' dialogue, to Jesus' performance of sign.

⁶⁰⁴ When discussing about plot Brant (2004: 33) says, "... unity of action in the tightly managed economy of the novel is achieved through attention to a strategic ordering of information". Also read what Genette (1980: 33-46) says about 'narrative order'.

John's witness to Jesus' takeover.⁶⁰⁵ The reversal of the story is introduced through the foregrounding of Jesus and through the beginning of disciple-making.⁶⁰⁶ And the *dénouement* (or resolution) of the plot is actualised through Jesus' "revelation of his glory through a sign".⁶⁰⁷ The genre-components, i.e., content, form, and function, of the dialogue coalesce within the narratorial framework in order to contribute toward the plot structure of the episode (cf. Aune, 1986: 86-91; Hellholm, 1986: 13-54). While the content of revelation is conveyed through diverse forms,⁶⁰⁸ the multiple forms of dialogue rhetorically function as means for generating faith in the reader.⁶⁰⁹ The linguistic phenomena of the text are comprised of literary devices and narrative dynamics (cf. Powell, 1990: 25-7). As Falk (1971: 42; cf. Nichols, 1971: 131; Chatman, 1978: 30) puts it, "A work of literature is a creation, and therefore its cohesive wholeness is the result of a formative intention, of an application of stylistic means and patterns by which the parts are linked together and unified". As Falk says, the narrator performatively outlines the dialogues and narratives, and rhetorises the text with the help of multiple literary means.⁶¹⁰ This helps the implied reader to gather a wider grasp about the identity of Jesus.

In the first episode of the BS itself the reader comes to grip with the point that the Christ-events are narrated by way of employing *question-and-answer*, *multi-layered*, *act-oriented*, and *revelatory* dialogue genres.⁶¹¹ The narrator prefers to present the dialogues and events by mixing up both the 'active' and 'passive' voice expressions. This feature is revealed through the complimentary treatment of the dialogue and the narrative. As Plato wrote dialogues with an intention "to affect his readers in ways similar to those that Socrates' conversations produced upon his listeners",⁶¹² here John uses dialogues in order to persuade his readers as Jesus' original interlocutors were provoked. In the first episode, the narrator develops dialogues in his own way. The 'quote and unquote' sayings are used in order to introduce the dramatic events forcefully and to bring the

⁶⁰⁵ Aristotle (*Poet. 11*) referred to the reverse in fortunes as a *peripety* (from the Greek for 'reversal'). See Baldick, 1990: 165; Brant, 2004: 43-50; Resseguie, 2005: 205.

⁶⁰⁶ The recognition or discovery is introduced through Jesus' foregrounding and the starting of disciple-making process. The "Call Stories" in the third and fourth slots (vv. 35-42, 43-51) play a vital role in the development of the *dénouement*. Cf. Resseguie, 2005: 205; Brant, 2004: 50-7; Baldick, 1990: 8-9; Culpepper, 1983: 84-9.

⁶⁰⁷ According to Resseguie (2005: 205), "The change in direction marks the beginning of the *dénouement* (French for 'unraveling') or resolution of the plot". Baldick (1990: 55) defines *dénouement* as "the clearing up or 'untying' of the complications of the plot in a play or story; usually a final scene or chapter in which mysteries, confusions, and doubtful destinies are clarified".

⁶⁰⁸ As Schaeffer (1988: 389) notices, there is an intense union between content and form in Platonic dialogues.

⁶⁰⁹ While the semantic domains of the dialogue are structured with the help of narratives, the narrator of the episode uses pragmatic means in order to interlock the reader with the text (cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 23-31).

⁶¹⁰ See what Press (2007: 59) says about the use of *exhibitive* and *performative* languages in Platonic dialogues. When talking about Platonic dialogues, Press (2007: 60; cf. Elam, 1980: 135-37) says, "The dialogues contain not only informational or assertive sentences and passages, but also exhibitive and performative ones".

⁶¹¹ Van Aarde (2009: 381) rightly says, "The term *genre* refers to the *generic* characteristics of a specific literary form, which differ from the characteristics of other forms, and which enable us to identify a specific *literary type*". John's dialogues and their characteristics enable the readers to identify its specific literary type. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 75-87; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-71; Stibbe, 1993: 31-49; Barrett, 1978: 170-94; Newman and Nida, 1980: 29-63; Carson, 1991: 141-75; Painter, 1993: 169-92.

⁶¹² Read more details about Platonic dialogues in Schaeffer, 1988: 388; Denning-Bolle, 1992: 70-2.

reader closer to the authentic words of Jesus.⁶¹³ The narrator sustains rhetorical quality dialogue through the treatment of the subject matter of Jesus' identity and disciple-making of evidence,⁶¹⁵ authoritative proclamation, argumentation, and control of emotion.⁶¹⁶ *anaphoric*⁶¹⁷ use of the expression "the next day" (vv. 29, 35 and 43 and the "on the third 2:1")⁶¹⁸ incorporates a chain of events as per the *movement and stasis* of the characters.⁶¹⁹ The point of view⁶²⁰ of the first episode can be understood through the progressive verbal and non verbal communications.⁶²¹ The figure of Jesus is revealed through titles such as "the Lamb of God", "Rabbi", "Messiah", "the one about whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote", "God", "King of Israel" and "Son of Man" (cf. Köstenberger, 1999: 64-74; Boice, 1978: 204).⁶²² This revelation about the identity of Jesus provokes the reader towards faith and discipleship. In conclusion, the dialogue as a whole is written from the perspective of revelation of his glory. In the story, Jesus' personality is progressively outlined through dialogue. But the revelation reaches its climax through an action (2:7-8). This progression of the

⁶¹³ While the dialogic utterances represent the words of the historical Jesus, the narratives are represented in the language of the author. See Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-71; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 21-36; Stibbe, 1993: 31-49; Newman and Nida, 1980: 29-63; Carson, 1991: 141-75; Painter, 1993: 169-92; Barrett, 1978: 170-94.

⁶¹⁴ The identity of Jesus is manifested through the witness of John, Jesus' revelatory dialogues with his interlocutors and finally his sign performance. The aspect of disciple-making develops as a transition from the third slot only.

⁶¹⁵ As Kennedy (1984: 14-15) explains, in the first episode of the Gospel of John, John the Baptist's testimony, quotations and allusions, and the sign are to be reckoned as "external proofs". Kennedy (1984: 14) says that the evidence is 'external' in the sense that it is not a creation of the mind of the speaker". In that sense, only interlocutors utter from their own intellect are to be considered as 'internal' or 'original'.

⁶¹⁶ The *rhetorical question* (vv. 46), *imperative statement* (v. 43), *exclamations* (vv. 47, 49), *information statement*, *veracity statement* (v. 51), *elusive statement* (2:4) and other utterance units are employed in order to reveal the identity of Jesus.

⁶¹⁷ *Anaphora* (sometimes called *epanaphora*) is the repetition of the same expression at the beginning of two successive clauses or sentences or paragraphs to add force to an argument. Cf. Baldick, 1990: 10; Grün-Oleary, 2001: 26.

⁶¹⁸ Servotte (1992/1994: 9; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 56) says that, "Very precise time-indications are a salient feature of this section. The phrase 'the next day' occurs three times and scans the story".

⁶¹⁹ While Jesus' *movement* is progressively reported, the coming and going of other characters (i.e., John the Baptist, Andrew and the anonymous disciple, Peter, Philip, Nathanael, Mary, the servants and the steward) create a *stasis* of *stasis* with regard to their role within the episode. The narrator introduces all other characters in relation to Jesus. The reader of the story gets an impression that Jesus is the only moving character within the story. Grellmann and Courtés (1979: 20) define 'movement' as follows: "Movement could be articulated in terms of direction (movements which lead from a space or time of departure to a space or time of arrival)".

⁶²⁰ Point of view signifies the way a story gets told. The actions of the characters, their dialogue, their rhetoric and the setting are presented through the narrator's perspective. The influence of the point of view is seen in the narrator selects for the story, what the characters say or do, what settings are elaborated, what communications and evaluations are made, and so forth. See Resseguie, 2005: 167; Resseguie, 2001; Abrams, 1999; and Lanser, 1999.

⁶²¹ Characters are the *dramatic personae*, the persons in the story. Characters reveal themselves in the speech they say and how they say it), in their actions (what they do), by their clothing (what they wear), in their gestures and postures (how they present themselves). Characters are known by what others say about them. Jesus, John the Baptist, Andrew, Andrew's companion, Peter, Philip and Nathanael, Mary the mother of Jesus, servants, and the steward are the main characters in the first episode. See Resseguie, 2005: 121.

⁶²² In the first episode (1:19-2:11), Jesus' identity as the Messiah is progressively developing from slot to slot. The reader is expecting more to learn about the identity of Jesus. See Blomberg, 2001: 75-87; Moloney, 1998; Brown, 1966: 42-111; Köstenberger, 2004: 51-101; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 43-71; Stibbe, 1993: 31-49; Barrett, 1978: 170-94; Newman and Nida, 1980: 29-63; Carson, 1991: 141-75; Painter, 1993: 169-92.

prompts the reader to consider it as a “glory-focused revelatory dialogue” (cf. Burge, 1987: 71-81). As John’s story develops through several episodes, we will look at the next stage of it in 2:13-22.

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
Slot # 1 (1:19-28)	Content: Messianic identity of Jesus // Form: <i>question-and-answer</i> type // Function: backgrounding of John the Baptist and foregrounding of Jesus.	The <i>question-and-answer</i> format of the dialogue reveals Jesus’ role as the Messiah. The dialogue invites the reader toward Jesus, the Messiah
Slot # 2 (1:29-34)	Content: Jesus’ identity as the Messiah, i.e., the “Lamb of God” (v. 29), “one who comes after but existed before” (v. 30), “anointed one of God” (v. 33), and the “Son of God” // Form: a dialogue turned to a two-tier monologue, John the Baptist’s witnessing about Jesus // Function: the revelatory witnessing of John the Baptist further invites the attention of the reader toward Jesus, the Messiah	The dialogue turned to two-tier monologue further reveals the identity of Jesus (through the means of John the Baptist’s witnessing) so that the reader may become attached to the Messiah
Slot # 3 (1:35-42)	Content: introducing the Lamb of God to the world (v. 36; cf. v. 29), discipleship, realisation of the Messiah (v. 41b), and Peter’s special appointment // Form: <i>four-layered dialogue</i> (implicit, explicit, implicit, implicit) // Function: transfer of role from John the witness to Jesus the Messiah	The four-layered dialogue smoothly makes a transfer of role from John the witness to Jesus the Messiah. It introduces Jesus, the Lamb of God, to the world, emphasises the aspect of discipleship, the realisation of the Messiah, and Peter’s special role. The temporarily continuing ministry of John the Baptist is, now, coming to an end and the reader is invited to be a ‘follower’ of Jesus and to be a ‘disciple-maker’
Slot # 4 (1:43-51)	Content: the identity of Jesus as the “one about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote” (v. 45), “Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth” (v. 45), “Son of God” (v. 49), “King of Israel” (v. 49), and “Son of Man” (v. 51) // Form: <i>three-layered</i> and <i>cyclical</i> (‘A-to-B, B-to-C, and C-to-A’ developmental) // Function: the reader is invited to discipleship and disciple-making	The three-layer dialogue reveals Jesus’ identity further to the reader and invites her/him for discipleship and disciple-making
Slot # 5 (2:1-11)	Content: the revelation of God’s glory in Jesus // Form: <i>four-layered</i> (explicit, implicit, implicit, implicit), <i>request-rebuke-response to encomium</i> sequential, and <i>sign/action-centered</i> // Function: the narrator persuades the reader for believing in Jesus through the mediation of both the words uttered by the characters and the sign performed by Jesus	The revelation of God’s glory in Jesus is the kernel point of the dialogue. The <i>four-layered</i> dialogue keeps a <i>request-rebuke-response to encomium</i> sequence. Its <i>sign/action-centered</i> format persuades the reader to believe in Jesus

Table 11: The summary of the dialogue of the first episode

Episode Two

A Challenge and Riposte⁶²³ Dialogue (2:13-22)

2.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

The episode in 1:19-2:12 ends with an itinerary note about the departure of Jesus along with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples, from the wedding banquet in Cana (Κανὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας) to Capernaum (cf. v. 12; Καφαρναούμ).⁶²⁴ Köstenberger (2004: 51) says that, “John 1:19-2:11 narrates a week in Jesus’ ministry. This bridge section overlaps with the narration of a ministry cycle from Cana to Cana in 2:1-4:54, with an intervening appearance by Jesus in the capital Jerusalem (2:13-3:21)”.⁶²⁵ In John 2:13-22, the dialogue moves suddenly from the domestic village located in Galilee (see 2:1-11; and also from Capernaum; cf. Corbo, 1992: 1: 866-69; Frankel, 1992: 2: 879-95) to the national religio-political headquarters, the temple in Jerusalem (see 2:13-22).⁶²⁶ The usage of expressions like κατέβη (v. 12) and ἀνέβη (v. 13) describe the ‘downward’ and ‘upward’ movements of Jesus through the geographical regions of Galilee and Judea.⁶²⁷ The sudden shift of *locale*⁶²⁸ can also be considered as a narrative technique in order to emphasise the movements of the characters in the play. At the outset of the narrative (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 49; Barrett, 1978: 197-8), the narrator introduces the approaching “Passover of the Jews” (v. 13; τὸ πάσχα τῶν Ἰουδαίων)⁶²⁹ and the temple of Jerusalem (v. 14; τῷ ἱερῷ).⁶³⁰ The architectural (i.e.,

⁶²³ A quick and clever reply, especially to criticism; or a course of action that takes place in response to something that has happened. See Malina and Neyrey, 1991: 35-8; Malina, 2001: 32-6.

⁶²⁴ Lindars (1972: 132; cf. Corbo, 1992: 1: 866-9; Riesner, 1992: 39; Keener, 2003: 517-8; Tasker, 1960: 61; Morris, 1995: 164) opines that, “The move to Capernaum is relevant to the second Sign, which may have taken place there rather than at Cana (cf. 4:46). It is generally identified with Tell Hūm on the north-west shore of the Sea of Galilee, and Jesus is said to have taught in the synagogue there (Mark 1:21; John 6:59)”. Morris (1995: 164) considers 2:12 as an “interlude”. Herzog (1992: 819) opines that, “The entire episode is self-contained, being separated from the miracle at Cana by 2:12 and from subsequent events in Jerusalem by 2:23-25”.

⁶²⁵ For more details about Jerusalem, refer to Mackowski, 1980. In Barus’ (2006: 124) opinion “John 2:12-25 forms a cohesive, close-knit unit”: *first*, 2:12: the response of the disciples and Jesus’ family; *second*, 2:13-22: the response of the religious leaders at the temple; and *third*, 2:23-25: the response of the people.

⁶²⁶ For more details about the temple of Jerusalem, refer to Meyers, 1992: 6: 350-69; Wise, 1992: 811-7; Riesner, 1992: 41. Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9; Blomberg, 2001: 87-90; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 38-42.

⁶²⁷ Köstenberger (2004: 104) opines that, “People went ‘up’ to Jerusalem because it was situated at a higher elevation than Galilee and because it was the capital city”. See Borchert, 1996: 162; Stibbe, 1993: 49; Brown, 1966: 115; Carson, 1991: 176; Barrett, 1978: 197.

⁶²⁸ The dictionary meaning for ‘locale’ is: “a place or locality especially when viewed in relation to a particular event or characteristic”.

⁶²⁹ Carson (1991: 176; cf. Brown, 1966: 114; Newman and Nida, 1980: 65-7; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-3; Stibbe, 1993: 49) says: “John keeps meticulous track of Jewish feasts. In addition to other feasts, he mentions three Passovers (2:13; 6:4; 11:55), possibly a fourth (5:1). This one probably takes place in 28 CE”. Carson adds that, “That he calls it *the Jewish Passover* (lit. ‘the Passover of the Jews’) is taken by some to indicate that his readers are

temple of Jerusalem)⁶³¹ but religious (i.e., during the Passover feast of the Jews)⁶³² setting narrative rhetorically prefaces the succeeding dialogue section (i.e., vv. 16-20). The reader story can view a large number of sellers (τοὺς πωλοῦντας), cattle (βόας), sheep (πρόβατα), (περιστεράς), and the tables of money-changers (τοὺς κερματιστάς καθημένους) as the back the story (see Borchert, 1996: 163; Brant, 2004: 91). The changed status of τῷ ἱερῷ (the area; see Newman and Nida, 1980: 66-7) into an ἐμπορίον (i.e., marketplace) is vividly de in the setting (see Table 12).⁶³³

Episode 2: John 2:13-22 ⁶³⁴
<i>Jesus</i> (to sellers): Ἀρατε ταῦτα ἐντεῦθεν, μὴ ποιεῖτε τὸν οἶκον τοῦ πατρὸς μου οἶκον ἐμπορίου
<i>Disciples</i> (memory of Ps. 69:9): Ὁ ζῆλος τοῦ οἴκου σου καταφάγεται με
<i>Jews</i> (to Jesus): Τί σημεῖον δεικνύεις ἡμῖν ὅτι ταῦτα ποιεῖς;
<i>Jesus</i> : Λύσατε τὸν ναὸν τοῦτον καὶ ἐν τρισὶν ἡμέραις ἐγερῶ αὐτόν
<i>Jews</i> : Τεσσαράκοντα καὶ ἕξ ἔτεσιν οἰκοδομήθη ὁ ναὸς οὗτος, καὶ σὺ ἐν τρισὶν ἡμέραις ἐγερεῖς αὐτόν;

Table 12: The dialogue text of 2:13-22 (Diagram 10 deals with the way ‘dialogue’ and ‘narratives’ are used interactively within the episode)

2.2. Micro-Analysis

As we have seen in the previous episode, the content of the dialogue can be understood relation to the narratives (cf. Collins, 1986: 5-6; Aune, 1986: 88-9)⁶³⁵ because of the fact t

primarily Gentiles for whom the very elements of Judaism must be explained, and by others to indicate t Christian toward the end of the first century, he is writing from a dismissive and censorious point of view, set Jews’ over against Jesus and his church”. Köstenberger (2004: 103-4) says that, “John mentions at le Passovers: the first in 2:13, 23, the second in 6:4, and the third in 11:55; 12:1”.

⁶³⁰ Newman and Nida (1980: 66; cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 71) say that, “The word for Temple (Greek this and the following verses refers to the court of the Gentiles (that is, the outer court) of the Temple. The s (Greek ναός), the Temple proper, is mentioned in verses 19 and 20”. They add further that, “It may be t translate Temple in this context as ‘the temple area’, to avoid giving the impression that the merch moneychangers were actually inside the sanctuary itself”. What Borchert (1996: 162) says in the following true: “The story opens with the important notation that the Passover of the Jews was near. That notation contextualise for the reader the entire discussion because for John it was largely what gave the account of Jesi its meaning”.

⁶³¹ According to Resseguie (2005: 100; cf. Bal, 1988: 44), “Architectural settings are human-made structures : house, synagogue, temple, pool, tomb, garden, courtyard, sheepfold, praetorium, door, or housetop. In arch structures, characters go in and out of buildings, travel to and from places, open and close doors, and so fc Meyers, 1992: 6: 350-69; Wise, 1992: 811-17.

⁶³² Resseguie (2005: 113) says that, “Religious days and feasts (Sabbath, Passover, Tabernacles) are set healings and for conflicts between Jesus and the authorities”. The mention about the approaching “Passov Jews” (v. 13) makes the story religiously inclined. Cf. Bosker, 1992: 6: 755-65.

⁶³³ For more details about the differences and similarities of recording the “Temple Cleansing” event in Syno the Gospel of John, refer to Carson, 1991: 177-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 64-6; Borchert, 1996: 163-4. The ἐμπορίον can mean a “mart”, a “marketplace” or an “emporium” (cf. Perschbacher, 1990: 139).

⁶³⁴ The dialogue section here (see vv. 16b-20) is framed by narratives (vv. 13-16a and 21-22). Narratives al significant part in vv. 16b-20 as the utterance units are introduced by the narrator (vv. 16a, 17a, 18a, 19a, 20a)

⁶³⁵ The incident in the temple is recorded in all four gospels (Matthew 21:10-17; Mark 11:11, 15-17; Luke 1 John 2:13-22; cf. Herzog, 1992: 817), although each gospel writer has interpreted the event in a distinct

dialogical material is interwoven within the narrative framework.⁶³⁶ The pericope begins in the form of a narrative (cf. vv. 13-15), it develops as a dialogue with the help of the formulaic narratives (vv. 16-20; dialogic utterances in vv. 16b, 18b, 19b, and 20b are introduced with the help of narrative formulas, i.e., vv. 16a, 18a, 19a, and 20a), and, finally, reverts to narrative form (vv. 21-22).⁶³⁷ This shows that the dialogue section is centralised (vv. 16b-20)⁶³⁸ and framed by pure and formula narratives (see the whole picture in Diagram 10).⁶³⁹ In the slot, Jesus is at the center of the Jewish capital where he acts and proclaims as one with authority.⁶⁴⁰ As a preparatory platform for the subsequent dialogue (beginning with εἶπεν in v. 16), Jesus' performance is described with the help of the following verbs: ἀνέβη (went up, v. 13), εὑρεν (found, v. 14), ποιήσας (having made, v. 15), ἐξέβαλεν (drove out, v. 15), ἐξέχεεν (poured out, v. 15), and ἀνέτρεψε (overturned, v. 15).⁶⁴¹ Jesus' command in v. 16b, i.e., Ἀρατε ταῦτα ἐντεῦθεν, reveals both his authority as the one from above and his concern toward his "Father's house". His imperative expression (i.e., μὴ ποιεῖτε τὸν οἶκον τοῦ πατρὸς μου οἶκον ἐμπορίου, v. 16b) reveals his wish of fulfilling his Father's work (see Diagram 10).⁶⁴²

Sloyan (1988: 40; cf. Talbert, 1992: 95) rightly states that, "The narrative is a diptych in two panels, 2:13-16 and 18-21, of which the second is a theological commentary on the first".

⁶³⁶ The following observation of Moloney (1998: 75) looks right: "The account itself opens with the description of Jesus' actions (vv. 14-17), highlighted by his words (v. 16), followed by the reaction of 'the Jews', also marked by direct speech (vv. 18-20)".

⁶³⁷ The structure of the larger narrative looks as follows: *first*, a narrative of the setting of the story (2:13-14); *second*, a second narrative about the action of Jesus (2:15-16a); *third*, the dialogue proper between Jesus and the Jews (2:16b-20); *fourth*, a subsequent narrative section about the effect of the action upon the disciples and the resultant belief (vv. 21-22); *fifth*, a narrative about the response of the crowds (v. 23); and *sixth*, a narrative about Jesus' knowledge of everyone (vv. 24-25).

⁶³⁸ The pericope develops in a *narrative* (vv. 13-16a)-*dialogue* (vv. 16b-20)-*narrative* (vv. 21-22) sequence. See Carson, 1991: 175-84; Culpepper, 1983: 13-50; Barrett, 1978: 194-201; Newman and Nida, 1980: 64-71.

⁶³⁹ Stibbe (1993: 51) explains that, "the amount of direct speech decreases and the amount of narratorial asides increases. In the ten verses of the story, only four have any direct speech in them. The rest is the commentary of the narrator, who introduces the context in v. 13, describes the action in vv. 14-15, reports Jesus' words in v. 16, provides a later interpretation of all this in v. 17, describes the dialogue between Jesus and the Jews in vv. 18-20, gives an interpretative aside in v. 21, and provides us with a post-resurrection perspective in v. 22. Here we have the full spectrum of involvement from objective, third-person description to the penetrative elicitation of secret meanings".

⁶⁴⁰ The temple of Jerusalem was the heart of the Jewish nation and the symbol of their religion (Mark 11:12). But the temple was not immune from corruption and lust for power (see Maniparampil, 2004: 203). Jesus' exercise of power has to be viewed from this angle. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 39; Painter, 1993: 192-5; Stibbe, 1993: 49-53; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72.

⁶⁴¹ According to Michaels (1984: 50), "At the historical level, this 'attack' of Jesus on the temple has essentially the same meaning as in the Synoptic Gospels. It is an act of radical reform". See Brown, 1966: 114-6; Gaebelein, 1936: 52; Neusner, 1989: 287-90; Barrett, 1978: 194-8; Painter, 1993: 192-5; Stibbe, 1993: 49-53.

⁶⁴² The use of 'descriptive genitive' or 'aporetic genitive' is a noticeable feature in v. 16. The idea of Jesus' statement is: "a house in which merchandise is sold". The expression μὴ ποιεῖτε is put in present imperative form in order to indicate "cessation of an activity in progress" (cf. Wallace, 1996: 80, 724). Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 347; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 116) states that, "the words of Jesus come from his consciousness of being the Son, which is to be still more clearly expressed later in the course of the gospel (cf. 5:17, 19 and others)". See Carson, 1991: 179-80; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 39; Barrett, 1978: 194, 198-9; Painter, 1993: 192-5.

v.13: Καὶ ἐγγὺς ἦν τὸ πάσχα τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ ἀνέβη εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα ὁ Ἰησοῦς.
v.14: καὶ εὗρεν ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ τοὺς πωλοῦντας βόας καὶ πρόβατα καὶ περιστερὰς καὶ τοὺς κερματιστὰς καθήμε-
v.15: καὶ ποιήσας φραγέλλιον ἐκ σχοινίων πάντας ἐξέβαλεν ἐκ τοῦ ἱεροῦ τὰ τε πρόβατα καὶ τοὺς βόας, καὶ
κολλυβιστῶν ἐξέχεεν τὸ κέρμα καὶ τὰς τραπέζας ἀνέτρεψε,
v.16: καὶ τοῖς τὰς περιστερὰς πωλοῦσιν εἶπεν,

"Αρατε ταῦτα ἐντεῦθεν, μὴ ποιεῖτε τὸν οἶκον τοῦ πατρὸς μου οἶκον
ἐμπορίου.

v.17: Ἐμνήσθησαν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ὅτι γεγραμμένον ἐστίν, 'Ὁ ζῆλος τοῦ οἴκου σου καταφάγεται με.
v.18: ἀπεκρίθησαν οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῷ,

Τί σημεῖον δεικνύεις ἡμῖν ὅτι ταῦτα ποιεῖς;

v.19: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς,

Λύσατε τὸν ναὸν τοῦτον καὶ ἐν τρισὶν ἡμέραις ἐγερῶ αὐτόν.

v.20: εἶπαν οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι,

Τεσσαράκοντα καὶ ἕξ ἔτεσιν οἰκοδομήθη ὁ ναὸς οὗτος, καὶ σὺ ἐν τρισὶν
ἡμέραις ἐγερεῖς αὐτόν;

v.21: ἐκεῖνος δὲ ἔλεγεν περὶ τοῦ ναοῦ τοῦ σώματος αὐτοῦ.

v.22: ὅτε οὖν ἠγέρθη ἐκ νεκρῶν, ἐμνήσθησαν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ὅτι τοῦτο ἔλεγεν, καὶ ἐπίστευσαν τῇ γρα-
τῷ λόγῳ ὃν εἶπεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς.

Diagram 10: John 2:13-22 (the parts in normal letters are narratives,
vv. 13-16a, 17-18a, 19a, 20a, 21-22; the parts in bold is the intertextual document, v. 17;
and the parts in the 'oval shapes' are the utterance units, vv. 16b, 18b, 19b, 20b)

The disciples remember the activity of Jesus in the temple and his subsequent command to the Jews as the fulfillment of Psalm 69:9 (cf. Hoskins, 2006: 110; Kysar, 1975: 106).⁶⁴³ The sudden remembrance of the quotation by the disciples (i.e., 'Ὁ ζῆλος τοῦ οἴκου σου καταφάγεται με, 17b, by the narratorial expression γεγραμμένον) disturbs the flow of the dialogue (cf. Nida, 1996: 37-45).⁶⁴⁴ Through the formulaic expression Ἐμνήσθησαν (v. 17a) the reader is made aware that it is a 'memory statement' of the disciples (cf. Nicol, 1972: 126; Beutler, 1996: 14). Subsequently, as a response to the entire activity of Jesus the Jews raise a question to him

⁶⁴³ Only John of the four gospels quotes a verse of Scripture in the temple cleansing scene (v. 17; Psalm 69:9; Nida, 1996: 37-45; Sloan, 1988: 40; Powell, 1962: 62-3; Filson, 1963: 43-4).

⁶⁴⁴ In the words of Kennedy (1984: 14), the OT quotation is used as an "external proof".

⁶⁴⁵ In 2:17 we have the first reference to the disciples' 'remembering' (Witherington, 1995: 88). Cf. New Testament, 1980: 67-8; Carson, 1991: 180; Painter, 1993: 192-5. Moloney (1998: 77) says that, "there is an alteration in the tense of the verb in the psalm. The LXX Greek text of Psalm 68 explains the suffering and the person dedicated to Temple prayer in the aorist tense: 'Zeal for your house *has consumed* (καταφάγεν) the person'. The recollection of the disciples cites the psalm with the verb in the future tense: 'Zeal for your house *will consume* (καταφάγεται) me'".

σημεῖον δεικνύεις ἡμῖν ὅτι ταῦτα ποιεῖς; (v. 18b).⁶⁴⁶ They ask for a sign (σημεῖον) and Jesus responds by saying Λύσατε τὸν ναὸν τοῦτον καὶ ἐν τρισὶν ἡμέραις ἐγερῶ αὐτόν (v. 19b; cf. Sanders, 1985: 72-3).⁶⁴⁷ Jesus' answer implicitly refers to his crucifixion, death, and resurrection (v. 19b),⁶⁴⁸ but the second response of the Jews in v. 20b (i.e., Τεσσαράκοντα καὶ ἕξ ἔτεσιν οἰκοδομήθη ὁ ναὸς οὗτος, καὶ σὺ ἐν τρισὶν ἡμέραις ἐγερεῖς αὐτόν;)⁶⁴⁹ portrays their lack of understanding (see Diagram 10).⁶⁵⁰ In light of the general understanding of the Johannine signs, Barus (2006: 139; cf. Senior, 1991: 33; Hakola, 2005: 87-8) makes the following observation: "Although the *sēmeia* mentioned in 2:23 do not necessarily refer to 2:18, it is clear that the *sēmeia* point to Jesus' words and deeds. Thus the deeds of Jesus in the court of the Gentiles and his resurrection are viewed as 'signs' (cf. Burge, 1987: 71-81). Signs in the narrative point to the universality of Christ's body". Just as Barus connects the story with the larger *sēmeia* theme of the gospel, Kermode (1987: 450) connects it with Jesus' hour by saying that "an hour has come, a choice has been made".⁶⁵¹ Though the dialogue ends in an open-ended manner, the narratorial comment at vv. 21-22 clarifies the meaning of the enigmatic statement of Jesus⁶⁵² and describes

⁶⁴⁶ The use of interrogative pronoun (τίς, τί) is noticeable here. An interrogative pronoun asks question. The most common interrogative pronoun is τίς, τί (occurring 500 times) typically asking an identifying question ('Who?' or 'What?'). The exegetical use of a ὅτι clause is also noticeable here. See Wallace, 1996: 345-6, 459-60. In the present case, the question means, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" See Carson, 1991: 180-1; Barrett, 1978: 199; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91; Newman and Nida, 1980: 68-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 40.

⁶⁴⁷ The expression λύσατε is a 'Conditional Imperative'. Wallace (1996: 490, 688) explains, "The sense of the imperative here is, minimally, 'If you destroy . . .'. But if λύσατε follows the normal semantic pattern of conditional imperatives, the force is even stronger: 'If you destroy this temple—and I *command* you to—in three days I will raise it up". Smith (1999: 89) rightly says as follows: "Jesus has just previously performed his first sign in Cana; we have not yet been told of signs in Jerusalem (but cf. v. 23). This demand is the Johannine counterpart of the question of authority posed by the chief priests, scribes, and elders in the synoptics (Mark 11:27-33)". See Painter, 1993: 192-5; Barrett, 1978: 199-200; Newman and Nida, 1980: 69; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9.

⁶⁴⁸ What Hoskins (2006: 111-12; cf. Brown, 1966: 123) opines in the following lines is right: "After Jesus' resurrection, the disciples remember Jesus' saying (2:19), understand it correctly (2:21), and accept it as true (2:22). Thus they understand that when Jesus says, 'Destroy this temple, and I will raise it up in three days' (2:19), he is actually referring to his body as the Temple and not to the Jerusalem temple at all (2:21)".

⁶⁴⁹ While several grammarians take the 'constative aorist' meaning (i.e., "This temple was built in forty-six years"), the 'consummative meaning' suggests a different meaning to the text (i.e., "This temple was built forty-six years ago"; cf. Wallace, 1996: 560). See more details about the misunderstanding motif in the following books: Hoskins, 2006: 108-15; Gaebele, 1936: 53-4; Talbert, 1992: 96.

⁶⁵⁰ This means, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" Beasley-Murray (1987: 41; also see Carson, 1991: 181-2; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9; Painter, 1993: 192-5; Barrett, 1978: 200; Newman and Nida, 1980: 70) opines that, "The 'scripture' which the disciples believed after the Resurrection is presumably Psalm 69:9, mentioned in v. 17, which enabled them to relate the temple cleansing to the death of Christ; the 'word' of Jesus is that of v. 19, which enabled them to grasp the significance of his resurrection in relation to the temple". For more details about usages like "Temple courts", "Father's house", "inner Temple area", and "Jesus' body", refer to Stibbe, 1993: 49-53.

⁶⁵¹ Maniparampil (2004: 200) defines the concept 'hour' in the following ways: *first*, 'hour' was a time of Jesus' conflict with the world; *second*, it also the time of definitive and final victory over the ruler of this world (the good news of victory); and *third*, it is also the time of Jesus' exaltation (or glorification) both on the cross and to the Father.

⁶⁵² The 'Genitive of Apposition' (τοῦ σώματος) is used with the following inferences (see Wallace, 1996: 98): *first*, it clearly indicates that the NT viewed the resurrection of Christ as a *bodily* resurrection; and *second*, Jesus is here represented as an *agent* of his own resurrection. Powell (1962: 66) states that, "He spoke of the raising of His body; it follows then that He knew His body would be nailed to a cross. He spoke of *destroying* His body". Herzog (1992: 820;

the response of the disciples through the expression “καὶ ἐπίστευσαν τῇ γραφῇ καὶ τῷ λόγῳ ἃ ἔειπεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς”. The action and the enigmatic statement of Jesus coupled with the narrator in vv. 21-22 broadens the meaning of the story from the literal temple (i.e., the temple in Jerusalem) to the “new and eschatological temple” (i.e., Jesus’ body, v. 21).⁶⁵³ Thus the story and the domains of the dialogue are symbolically connected to Jesus’ action at the temple (vv. 13-15), the dialogue with the Jews concerning his Father’s house (vv. 16-20), and the post-resurrection memory and the resultant belief of the disciples (vv. 21-22; Nicol, 1972: 126; see Diagram 1).

The form of the dialogue can be determined on the basis of the varied utterance units, rhetorical devices, dialogue and narrative interaction, and the structural aspects within the pericope. The narrator of the story uses utterance forms such as *order/command* (v. 16b),⁶⁵⁵ *rebellious question* (vv. 18b), *double meaning statement/command* (v. 19b; cf. Van der Watt, 2005: 463-81; 2004: 194),⁶⁵⁶ and *misunderstanding statement/question* (v. 20b; cf. Hoskins, 2006: 108; 1991: 55), in order to maintain the dramatic flow⁶⁵⁷ within the textual horizon (see Table 1). The dramatic nature of the pericope can be determined by the presence of the speaker and listeners/speakers (the Jews and the disciples), time of utterance (*now*, after cleansing the Temple) and location of utterance (*here* at the temple; cf. Elam, 1980: 138). The utterance forms are introduced with the help of narratives (vv. 16a, 18a, 19a, 20a).⁶⁵⁹ The *figures of thought*

cf. Sanders, 1985; Keener, 2003: 522) says that, “For John’s community Jesus’ body is the Temple that has replaced the Temple of former times”. See Hunter, 1965: 35; Sloyan, 1988: 41; Vincent, 1969: 85-6.

⁶⁵³ Painter (1991: 52; cf. Van der Watt, 2007: 13; Manipampil, 2004: 202-3) says that, “John’s account of the cleansing of the Temple (ἱερόν) could be called ‘the new temple’. Certainly the story has been told in order to show Jesus to respond to the demand for a sign and to demonstrate his authority”.

⁶⁵⁴ France (1992: 223-4; cf. Manipampil, 2004: 156-7) is of the opinion that, “The language of faith (‘trust’, ‘faithful’, ‘reliable’) is essential to human relationships in general, but gains its special biblical connotation from the interaction of God with humanity, his reliability and our response of trust in him It is well known that the noun *pistis* does not occur in John’s Gospel, while the verb *pisteuō* occurs nearly 100 times”.

⁶⁵⁵ Brant (2004: 94) says that, “Jesus uses spatial deixis in his charge to the dealers that refers to the mimetic space of their economic activity within it: ‘Take these things out of here!’ (2:16a), and his command ‘Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!’ (2:16b) represents the same modality given the space by the narrative description in vv. 13-15”.

⁶⁵⁶ Hoskins (2006: 111) considers it as an ‘enigmatic’ utterance. He says, “Jesus’ response is enigmatic because it is enigmatic that the Jews and even his own disciples do not grasp its significance at the time”. Stibbe (1993: 52) points out that, “The device of ‘punning’ is related to the insider/outsider hermeneutic. In 2:16 and 2:20, we see a number of ‘puns’ based on the word οἶκος. In 2:16, Jesus says, ‘How dare you turn my Father’s house (οἶκον τοῦ πατρὸς) into a market (οἶκον ἐμπορίου)’. In 2:20, the Jews speak of how long the Temple took to build (οἰκοδομήθη)”. Stibbe (1993: 52) adds further that, “These puns reveal that the narrator is concerned to maximise the effects of playing on related words, especially οἶκος. Those ‘in the know’ can enjoy the puns. Those who are outsiders (the Jews) cannot”. Moloney (1998: 79) considers the question of the Jews in v. 20 as a “mocking question”.

⁶⁵⁷ Brant (2004: 173) is of the opinion that, “In the Fourth Gospel, Jesus’ proclivity for speaking of himself in terms of the temple serves the dramatic purpose of frustrating others’ identification of him. When he states, ‘Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up’ (2:19), the audience, even without the narrator’s assistance, ought to guess that he means himself, while the Jews ought to have no idea that he means anything other than the temple”.

⁶⁵⁸ The utterance forms and the literary devices employed in the passage have rhetorical power to persuade the audience. See Carson, 1991: 175-83; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9; Painter, 1993: 192-5.

⁶⁵⁹ The four major component parts within the pericope are: *first*, pure narratives (vv. 13-15, 21-22); *second*, narrative narratives (vv. 16a, 18a, 19a, 20a); *third*, scriptural quote (v. 17); and the utterance units (vv. 16b, 18b, 19b, 20b).

tropes,⁶⁶⁰ such as *metonymy* in v. 16 (i.e., “My Father’s House”) for “Jerusalem Temple”,⁶⁶¹ *intertextuality* in v. 17,⁶⁶² the Jews’ *questioning* (vv. 18, 20), and *symbolic explanatory note* (2:21),⁶⁶³ strengthen the arguments within the narrative discourse.⁶⁶⁴ The narrator of the story associates Jesus’ symbolic act of cleansing the temple with the succeeding dialogue.⁶⁶⁵ Barus (2006: 124-5) says, “In 1:19-2:11, the protagonist starts his witnessing with a speech, but in 2:12-25 he begins with an action followed by a speech. Both witnessing activities (deeds and words) reveal the protagonist’s nature”. Stibbe (1993: 49) identifies devices of *inclusio* (between vv. 13 and 23-25) and a *chiasmus* in 2:13-25, as follows:⁶⁶⁶

- A Jesus in Jerusalem at the Passover (v. 13)
- B The disciples’ post-resurrection remembrance (vv. 14-17)
- C The new temple of Jesus’ body (vv. 18-21)
- B’ The disciples’ post-resurrection remembrance (v. 22)
- A’ Jesus in Jerusalem at Passover (vv. 23-25)

The dialogue is maintained in a reported speech format and is between Jesus and the Jews. The “A to B, B to A, A to B, B to A” format of the dialogue is orderly as the speech begins with Jesus and ends with the Jews (cf. vv. 16b, 18b, 19b, 20b). The conversation thus maintains a ‘back’ and ‘forth’ sequence throughout. Without the narrator’s comment at v. 21 the dialogue remains incomplete. Van der Watt emphasises the usage of metaphorical language in the dialogue. He

⁶⁶⁰ *Figures of thought* or *tropes* use words and phrases that depart from customary or standard ways of using the language. This device is different from rhetorical figures. Rhetorical figures use language in the customary, standard, or literal way but depart from standard usage by the syntactical order or pattern of the words. See Resseguie, 2005: 61.

⁶⁶¹ *Metonymy* (Gk. for “change of name”) substitutes one term for another concept with which it is closely associated. “The White House” is metonymic for the president of the United States (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 61; Baldick, 1990: 135). Stibbe applies another device called *punning* here. The device of *punning* is related to this insider/outsider hermeneutic. See Newman and Nida, 1980: 67; Painter, 1993: 193; Barrett, 1978: 198.

⁶⁶² Sometimes narratives assume that readers are already familiar with other texts and so borrow freely from motifs that these texts employ. Here the narrator quotes from Psalm 69:9. Michaels (1984/1989: 51) opines that, “The link between verses 17 and 22 suggests that the remembering of the passage in Psalm 69, no less than the remembering of Jesus’ *riddle*, is postresurrection and has in view Jesus’ Passion. This is seen by the future tense of the verb: Zeal for the house of God **will consume** Jesus, that is, it will bring about his death at the hands of the temple authorities. Only after his Passion could his disciples ‘remember’ the passage in this way”. See Powell, 1995: 247; cf. Carson, 1991: 180; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 74-5; Barrett, 1978: 198-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 67-8.

⁶⁶³ Barus (2006: 135) opines that, “A ‘symbol’ uses earthly realities to point to other realities. The implied reader seeks to put together two realities into one meaning, a meaning of which the characters in the text may not have been aware”.

⁶⁶⁴ Borchert (1996: 161; cf. Borchert, 1988: 501-13; Bernard, 1929: 97) is of the opinion that, “the evangelist viewed the story of Jesus in its entirety from a *postresurrection perspective*”. See Carson, 1991: 180-2; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 38-43; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91.

⁶⁶⁵ Acts followed by discourses: chap. 5; chap. 6; discourses followed by acts: chaps. 7-9; chaps. 10-11. Koester (1995: 11) says that, “the jars do play a representative role in the Cana story (2:1-12) increases when it is read together with the account of temple cleansing that follows (2:13-22), since the temple cleansing anticipates the replacement of the Jerusalem temple by the crucified and risen ‘temple’ of Jesus’ body”. Coloe (2008: 4) opines that, “Symbol (Συμβολον)—as the word itself suggests—is the throwing together, the joining together of two otherwise dissimilar realities. The Fourth Gospel displays a self-conscious use of symbolism and its religious functions to bring together the divine reality, the world ‘above’, with the human reality, the world ‘below’”. Cf. Talbert, 1992: 95; Borchert, 1996: 166; Quast, 1991/1996: 24.

⁶⁶⁶ Stibbe (1993: 49) says that, “Like the Cana miracle, 2:13-25 shows compositional artistry”.

(2000: 105-6; cf. Sanders, 1985: 72-3; Duke, 1985: 145) says that, “Jesus did not speak Temple of stone but of his body. The *Temple* is substituted with *body*. This enables development of a more complex metaphor where figurative actions can be substituted with actions in the case of Jesus, that is break down with die and being rebuilt with being raised” the *dramatis personae* speak figuratively, the narrator of the story explains the speech units sake of the reader.⁶⁶⁷

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Order, command	Taking away everything out of the temple stop making the Father's house a market
Scripture	Psalm 69:9, memory of scripture	Zeal for the house
Jews	Rebellious question	What sign will Jesus show the Jews that can do all these things?
Jesus	Double meaning, command	Destroy the temple so that Jesus can raise it in three days
Jews	Misunderstanding statement, question	The temple has been under construction 46 years; how Jesus can raise it up in three days

Table 13: ‘Form’ and ‘Content’ of utterance units in John 2:13-22

The story is revelatory as it reveals another aspect of Jesus, that is, his revolutionary action in speech in the temple. Quast (1991/1996: 22) is right in saying that, “The revelation of Jesus upon the unexpected and the ambiguous, a strategy continued in Jesus’ actions and words in the temple”. The inter-textual statement from Psalm 69:9 is inserted in order to alert the reader to the fulfillment aspect.⁶⁶⁸ Expressions like ἀπατε, μὴ ποιεῖτε, and λύσατε (vv, 16b, 19b) stress the imperative or orderly nature of Jesus’ speech, and that in turn reveals his ‘authority from the Father’. The relationship between the Father and the Son is brought out expressively through the possible usage of τὸν οἶκον τοῦ πατρὸς μου.⁶⁶⁹ The peculiar usage of language is one of the key elements for understanding the revelatory nature of the dialogue.

The community nature of the dialogue is obvious as the protagonist of the story, Jesus, addresses and interacts with a larger group of people. Maniparampil (2004: 202) sees two story-lines in this episode: the first story-line is the “temple cleansing” (vv. 14-17) and the second story-

⁶⁶⁷ Two-thirds of the story is sustained in narratorial format. Barus (2006: 127) says that, “The reliability of the narrator is portrayed when he acts as the authoritative interpreter of Jesus by explaining his enigmatic words (v. 21). The narrator-as-observer interrupts the narration at a critical moment by giving an inside view of Jesus’ character”.

⁶⁶⁸ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 117; cf. Barus, 2006: 128; Brant, 2004: 207) opines that the scriptural proof from Isaiah 53 (cf. Rom 15:3; John 19:28) was undoubtedly *proleptic*. Beasley-Murray (1987: 39) states that, “The eschatological order is achieved not through the ejection of traders but through that to which the action leads: the death of the Father’s Son. So, Psalm 69:9 is quoted, a psalm of the Righteous Sufferer”. Through the memory statement of the disciples (v. 17), the fulfillment character of the narrative is unfolded (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 22). See Painter (1993; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 74-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 39-40).

⁶⁶⁹ Borchert (1996: 165) explains the way Jesus handles both the “whip” and the “words” in the story. Cf. Painter (1993: 193; Barrett, 1978: 198; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 39-40; Newman and Nida, 1980: 67; Carson, 1991: 175).

the “temple logion” (vv. 18-22; cf. Hoskins, 2006: 109-10).⁶⁷⁰ Jesus’ action in the temple and his utterance at v. 16b generate a scene of *challenge* (v. 18b) and his reaction is a *riposte* (v. 19b). According to Neyrey (2007: 71), “Cultural studies of New Testament stories regularly describe exchange such as (John) 2:18-19 in terms of a social dynamic called challenge and riposte”.⁶⁷¹ He also notices four stages: first, *claim*; second, *challenge*; third, *response*; and fourth, *success awarded* by the spectators.⁶⁷² Jesus’ actions in 2:14-16 constitute the “claim”, implying that he enjoys a role and status authorising him to deal with the temple as he does. A challenge immediately follows from those who stand to lose prestige and wealth as a result of Jesus’ action: “What sign can you show us for doing this?” (2:18b). Jesus responds to their challenge and gives them a ‘sign’: “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up” (2:19b).⁶⁷³ Success in the story lies in the comprehension by characters and groups of the double meaning of Jesus’ words. Special levels of knowing, then, divide winners from losers (see Neyrey, 2007: 71-2). The narrator uses *challenge and riposte* dynamism in order to communicate the event in terms of a *dialogical rhetoric*.⁶⁷⁴ Thus the plot of the story is arranged as follows: a claim is established (vv. 13-16), a challenge is placed (v. 18b), a riposte is followed (v. 19b), a counter-response is received (v. 20b), and a clarification is provided (vv. 21-22; see Diagram 11). Barus (2006: 134) says that, “the presence of both believers and unbelievers [i.e., the Jews and the disciples] in the narrative world shows that the plot is propelled by conflict. The plot is built on the conflict of belief and unbelief”.⁶⁷⁵

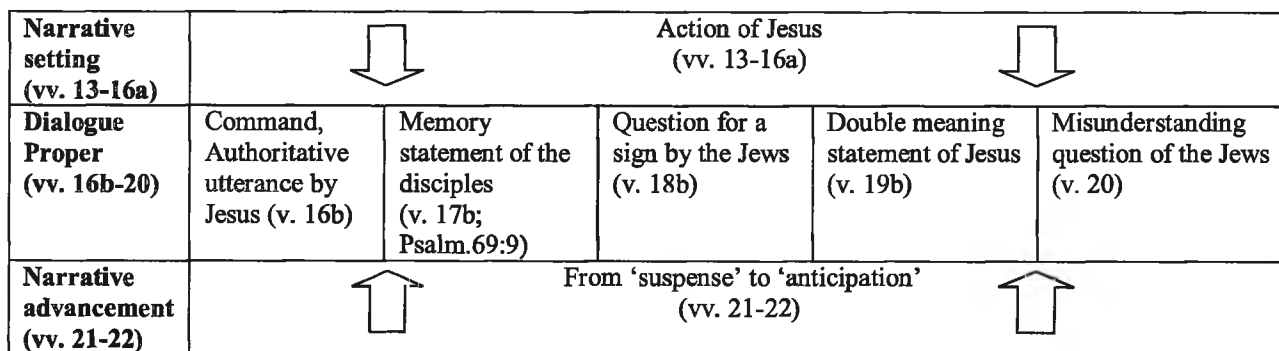


Diagram 11: The development of the dialogue within the narratorial framework

⁶⁷⁰ Maniparampil (2004: 202-3) considers v. 13 as an “introductory verse” and vv. 23-25 as a “conclusion” for these two story-lines.

⁶⁷¹ Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 74-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 68-9; Barrett, 1978: 199-200.

⁶⁷² Talbert (1992: 96-97) suggests the following sequence: *first*, the challenge (v. 18); *second*, Jesus’ response (v. 19); *third*, Jewish misunderstanding (v. 20); *fourth*, clarification by the narrator (v. 21); and *fifth*, the disciples remember (v. 22). Cf. Carson, 1991: 175-84; Painter, 1993: 192-5; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91; Newman and Nida, 1980: 67-70.

⁶⁷³ Witherington (1995: 88-9; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 118) says that, “But instead of performing a miraculous validating ‘sign’ on the spot, Jesus offers a *mashal*, or figurative saying, in this case in the form of a *riddle* . . . as so often in this Gospel, we have irony, the saying of one thing and meaning of another . . . This reveals not only the depth of Jesus’ sapiential speech, but the shallowness of the interlocutors in the text”. Ridderbos (1987/1997: 117) considers it as an enigmatic saying. Cf. Painter, 1993: 193; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 74.

⁶⁷⁴ A dialogical rhetoric can be one that can be used for strengthening/expounding the dialogic character of the narrative.

⁶⁷⁵ The narrator shows the interior disposition of belief here. Cf. Brant, 2004: 205.

The notable devices used in the dialogue are Jesus' *double meaning* (v. 19) and the *misunderstanding* (vv. 20; see Bernard, 1929: 95). Jesus' body is the temple to be destroyed raised up, but the hearers think of the Jerusalem temple.⁶⁷⁶ Barus (2006: 135) says further "Misunderstanding occurs in the center of the narrative (John 2:13-22) in order to heighten the implied reader's attention to the protagonist". Jesus' statement in v. 19 remains *paradoxical* to the Jewish hearers and at the same time works as *situational irony*⁶⁷⁸ as Jesus was *in the temple* in Jerusalem and talking about *another temple, his body*. Moloney (1998: 79) says that the narrator, as in 2:11, draws back from the narrative to offer a correct understanding of Jesus' statement (v. 21; cf. v. 19) and to comment on the initial response of the disciples (v. 22; cf. v. 19). The disciples have unwittingly seen Jesus' actions as paving the way for conflict and death (v. 22). The words of Jesus to 'the Jews' have indicated that he has authority to raise up 'the Temple' in three days (v. 19; cf. Fortna, 2001: 204)". The above mentioned syntactic dynamism within the pericope helps the reader to identify the *challenge and riposte* form of the dialogue. In the dialogue, the elements like call, challenge, response, and success awarded are stylistically coordinated by the help of the narrator (see Diagram 11).

The above discussion about the content and the form of the dialogue enables us to understand the function of it in the following way.⁶⁷⁹ The literary devices and figures of thought used within the narrative have multi-dimensional dialogical functions.⁶⁸⁰ Barus (2006: 134; cf. Van Aarde 2006: 381-5) is of the opinion that, "Through . . . literary devices communication between the implied author and implied reader is established and sustained to persuade the implied reader of the purpose of the implied author's writing: to elicit and edify faith in Jesus". The implied author of the story works through the mediation of the characters and their utterances (cf. vv. 16b, 19).

⁶⁷⁶ Cf. Brown, 1966: 1: cxxxv; cf. Anderson, 2007. A misunderstanding uses double entendres, ambiguous statements or metaphors to create bewilderment or misunderstanding in the hearer, which is then resolved either by Jesus or the narrator. Borchert (1996: 165) says that, "Unbelievers misunderstood Jesus because they perceived only the surface level meaning of his statements and were unaware that these statements actually revealed something about Jesus and the transformation of life that he brought". Köstenberger (2004: 108) says, "The phrase 'in three days' ('a point three days hence') harks back to OT symbolic language (e.g., Exo 19:11; Hos 6:2)".

⁶⁷⁷ A *paradox* is a figure of speech that seems absurd or contradictory yet upon closer reflection is true. It attracts attention and causes us to slow down and think (see Resseguie, 2005: 62). Bultmann (1987: 125, cites Amos 4: 8:9; cf. Duke, 1985: 50) refers to the phrase, *destroy this temple*, as an *ironic imperative*, in the style of the prophets.

⁶⁷⁸ The opponents of Jesus are given to making statements about him that are derogatory, sarcastic, incredulous, at least, inadequate in the sense they intend. A subtle form of irony relies upon paradox to bring out contradictions in the nature of Jesus' mission. See Booths, 1974; Muecke, 1969. Duke (1985: 113; cf. p. 87) says: "By their [Jews'] killing of Jesus they think they save the life of their nation and their temple. In the author's view, it is precisely in killing Jesus that they achieve the death of their nation and their temple. In a tragic irony of events, it is the death they intend for Jesus".

⁶⁷⁹ For more details about the generic features of function, refer to Aune, 1987: 35-6.

⁶⁸⁰ The literary features within the episode make us aware that the narrator of the pericope is intentional in depicting the events dialogically for the sake of wider efficacy. The dialogues develop between the characters within the narrative and the historical readers, and the text and the current readers (cf. Green, 1995: 176).

18b, 20b).⁶⁸¹ Jesus' death and resurrection are prophesied by the help of symbolical language (vv. 16b, 19b). The questioning attitude of the Jews reveals the way their perplexity grows after Jesus begins his public ministry (vv. 18b, 20b).⁶⁸² The dynamic presentation of the utterance units also contributes toward the macro-level dialogue between belief and unbelief.⁶⁸³ The implied author portrays Jesus' vitality and zeal for the temple, courage to challenge the community, sensitivity to understanding the unfavourable condition of the temple, and intelligence to talk dialogically with the Jews.⁶⁸⁴ The implied author views Jesus as the one with zeal for his Father's house, describes how his symbolic action in the temple leading to a dialogue, illustrates about his passion and resurrection in a metaphorical way, and concludes with a mention about the post-resurrection faith of the disciples (cf. Smith, 1999: 88-91).⁶⁸⁵ The disciples' 'remembrance' aspect deciphers the effect of Jesus' sayings upon the community (see v. 22). The 'temple cleansing' of Jesus would remain unimpressive without the 'temple logion'; but with the help of the succeeding dialogue the action of Jesus communicates forcefully to the reader (cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 202).⁶⁸⁶

The centrality of the dialogue is obvious through its placement between the preceding (vv. 13-16a) and the succeeding (vv. 21-25) narratives.⁶⁸⁷ Resseguie (2001: 110) says that, "The protagonist, Jesus, represents the principal point of view of the narrative, which is expressed in the following ways: *first*, by what the narrator says about Jesus; *second*, by what other characters say; *third*, by

⁶⁸¹ Thatcher (2001: 269) includes both the statements of Jesus in the category of riddles. Elam (1980: 138) is concerned about the immediate relationship between two speaker-listeners and the here-and-now of their utterances.

⁶⁸² See Barrett, 1978: 194-202; Stibbe, 1993: 48-53; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91; Carson, 1991: 175-84; Newman and Nida, 1980: 64-73; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9; Painter, 1993: 192-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 38-42.

⁶⁸³ The antithetical phenomenon *belief-unbelief dialogue* is one of the running themes of the gospel in the succeeding chapters. Painter (1993: 195) points out that, "It is now said that they believed the scripture" (Psalm 69:9) and to this is added, 'and the word of Jesus'. What distinguishes this from 2:17, where it is said that the disciples remembered the Scripture, is not the replacement of 'remembered' by 'believed', but the addition of 'the word of Jesus'". Painter (1993: 195) notes that, "For John, remembrance of the scripture in relation to Jesus' action implies belief". The liberating action (or transformative performance) at the temple followed by the interactive conversation of Jesus contributes to the macro-narrative of John's gospel. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 38-42; Barrett, 1978: 194-202; Stibbe, 1993: 48-53; Carson, 1991: 175-84; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91; Newman and Nida, 1980: 67-8.

⁶⁸⁴ Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 87-91; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9; Barrett, 1978: 194-202; Newman and Nida, 1980: 64-73; Stibbe, 1993: 48-53; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 38-42; Carson, 1991: 175-84; Painter, 1993: 192-5.

⁶⁸⁵ Smith (1999: 82-91) counts the entire section 2:1-22 as "Jesus' Epiphany". Stibbe (1993: 51) states that, "Certain keywords resurface here: 'finding' (v. 13), 'sign' (v. 18), 'disciples' (v. 22) and 'believing' (v. 22). A new theme is raised in the concept of remembrance (*emnēsthēsan*, vv. 17, 22). The crucial theme, however, is the theme of the Temple". See Blomberg, 2001: 87-91; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 38-42; Carson, 1991: 175-84; Barrett, 1978: 194-202; Painter, 1993: 192-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 64-73; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9.

⁶⁸⁶ Stibbe (1993: 50) opines that, "Jesus' characterisation reveals a number of qualities. First of all, his pilgrimage to Jerusalem shows that he is a pious Jew who observes the feasts even if he seeks to fulfill and transcend them. Second, his outrage at the discovery of the merchants in the outer courts of the Temple reveals his devotion to his Father's house—a devotion which we are told will 'consume' him (v. 17, a prolepsis of the passion. Third, the language of Jesus from v. 19 onwards reveals a new characteristic". Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 38-42; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91; Stibbe, 1993: 48-53; Carson, 1991: 175-84; Barrett, 1978: 194-202.

⁶⁸⁷ Moloney (1998: 75, also see 76) says that, "The account itself opens with the description of Jesus' actions (vv. 14-17), highlighted by his words (cf. v. 16), followed by the reaction of 'the Jews', also marked by direct speech (cf. vv. 18-20) and a closing comment on the action from the narrator (vv. 21-22)". See Painter, 1993: 192-5; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91; Barrett, 1978: 194-202; Newman and Nida, 1980: 64-73; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 38-42; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9; Carson, 1991: 175-84; Stibbe, 1993: 48-53.

Jesus' speech; and *fourth*, by his actions". The argumentative nature of the text is brought to the attention of the reader through the process of foregrounding Jesus and through demanding the reader's faith in him.⁶⁸⁸ From the beginning of the gospel the narrator reveals the character of Jesus progressively in order to uncover his complex identity before the reader. The symbolic use of the word *ναός* (v. 19b) is rhetorical and performative as it actualizes the intention of the narrator in bringing the attention of the reader toward the 'new temple' (i.e., Jesus; cf. Reinhartz, 1994: 4). The sequence of aspects such as Jesus' action in the temple, his dialogue with the Jews, the revelation about the forthcoming events, the Jews' perplexity, and the disciples' remembrance and belief are reader-friendly in actualisation.⁶⁹⁰ The usage of the metaphoric and pun language, the misunderstanding and fulfillment aspects, and anticipatory⁶⁹¹ and remembrance tropes are effectively implemented within the episode (cf. Morris, 1995: 166-80; Neyrey, 2007: 100). Beasley-Murray (1987: 42) opines that, "The cleansing of the temple is a sign of the nature of Christ's mediatorial work as Revealer and Redeemer".⁶⁹² The dialogic interaction followed the temple cleansing event makes the pericope a rhetorical one. The rhetoric of language is implemented through the usage of defamiliarising⁶⁹³ devices by Jesus, like double meaning or metaphor, the misunderstanding of the Jews (cf. Resseguie, 2001: 41, 51).⁶⁹⁴ The unfamiliar devices are used to create a sense of freshness. Resseguie (2001: 28) says, "open a window to view the unfamiliar with a sense of freshness".⁶⁹⁵ The narrator's post-resurrection reporting of the event with the help of the

⁶⁸⁸ Robbins (1997: 25) says that, "As a method, rhetorical criticism has brought new light to the argumentative nature of biblical literature". The argumentative nature works both within the textual horizon and beyond it.

⁶⁸⁹ Cf. Funk, 1988: 3; Köstenberger, 2004: 105-10; Van Aarde, 2009: 389-91.

⁶⁹⁰ In the process of reading, as Robbins (1997: 28) says, "we engage the past, present and future of a speaker-authors, speech-texts and hearer-readers for the purpose of reconstruing the political and ethical issues in our own past, present and future".

⁶⁹¹ Davies (1992: 54) says that, "Anticipation is less widely used in modern popular storytelling, in which suspense is a major element, than it was in some ancient literature, in which the interest lay in seeing how an inexorable fate would effect the denouement. In the Fourth Gospel the reader is gradually led to understand that God's purpose was accomplished through Jesus' death".

⁶⁹² Beasley-Murray (1987: 42) says that, "For those who witnessed the event and heard the explanatory word which it contained a message alike of rebuke and promise, with evident threat of judgment for those responsible for the desecration of the 'place' of the Holy One of Israel". Beasley-Murray (1987: 42) adds that, "The perspective is up by the ministry of Jesus shows that its full significance, and the fulfillment of the thing significant, is accomplished in the offering of the body of Christ and his rising from the dead".

⁶⁹³ Defamiliarization or "making strange" (*ostranenie* in Russian, which literally means "making strange") was popularized by the Russian Formalist, Victor Shklovsky, in the early part of the last century. Resseguie (2001: 27-28) says that, "It is the creative distortion of a familiar word or concept to make it seem strange, unfamiliar, or in some way odd The Gospel of John is a wonderfully protean compendium of defamiliarizing devices including double entendres, misunderstandings, ambiguous terms, and irony, among others". Cf. Abrams, 1999: 274; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 101-2.

⁶⁹⁴ Wuellner (1991: 178; quoted in Robbins, 1997: 26) says, "As a method, rhetorical criticism comes to focus primarily on *one* issue: The text's potential to persuade, to engage the imagination and will, or the text's capacity for inducement".

⁶⁹⁵ The use of all these devices proves the poetic nature of the dialogue/narrative. Van Aarde (2009: 389-91) and Resseguie, 2005: 18; Chatman, 1978: 116-26; Powell, 1990: 51-67; Moore, 1989: 41-55) opines that, "'poetics' is derived from the Greek word *poiein* (ποιεῖν) which means 'to make'. It refers to the way in which language is organised in a discourse (cf. Uspensky, 1973), in other words it refers to the way in which a text is organized either as a narrative or as an argument".

voice' interaction of the interlocutors enables the ever present reader to see its pragmatic power in the 'here and now' realms of the faith journey (cf. Davies, 1992: 62; Reinhartz, 1994: 570).⁶⁹⁶

2.3. Meso-Analysis

The above analysis of John 2:13-22 enabled us to understand the content, form, and function of the speech-units in order to determine the nature of the dialogue.⁶⁹⁷ The episode reveals several features, such as Jesus' action, his dialogue with the Jews, anticipation of future events, the fulfillment of the scripture, and the disciples' post-resurrection recollection.⁶⁹⁸ The characterisation of Jesus is peculiar in the narrative as he is one who travels to the temple at Jerusalem (v. 13), cleanses the temple (vv. 15-16a), fulfills the prophecy (v. 17b), and becomes the 'new' temple (v. 21) and a sign-performer (v. 23).⁶⁹⁹ The content of the dialogue is explained on the basis of a shift of emphasis from the literal temple of Jerusalem to the 'new' eschatological temple (i.e., Jesus; cf. Dodd, 1960: 301; Herzog, 1992: 819-20). The *action-to-dialogue* narrative framework of the pericope incorporates the *challenge-and-riposte* dialogue within it (see Diagram 12; Table 14). The content and form of the dialogue help the narrator to reveal another side of the personality of Jesus and to invite the reader to believe in him (vv. 22, 23).⁷⁰⁰ Thus the dialogic genre works within the narratorial framework with the help of its component parts (i.e., content, form, and function). This in turn helps the narrator to convey the meaning of the text persuasively to the reader. While the first episode develops through multiple dialogic slots and layers of dialogue, the second episode develops within a single slot (see 1:19-2:11; cf. 2:13-22).⁷⁰¹

⁶⁹⁶ Barus (2006: 139) opines that, "for believers the signs function to strengthen faith, whereas for unbelievers they evoke belief in him. The *sēmeia* are connected with the dramatic action and with Jesus' miraculous deeds and resurrection". Barus (2006: 140) adds that, "FG is composed both to initiate faith in Jesus (*Missionsschrift*) and to deepen the faith of the believing community (*Gemeindeschrift*) The narrative reading helps reveal, over and above the linguistic and historical readings, the dual purpose of FG as stated in 20:31".

⁶⁹⁷ In the process of discourse analysis, Green (1995: 176) identified three different kinds of discourses that lie side by side: *first*, discourse within the narrative itself, here in John, the interchange between Jesus and the Jews; *second*, discourse between the addresser and addressee; that is, between John the narrator and the audience to which the story is directed; and *third*, a communicative discourse between the text and new generations of readers.

⁶⁹⁸ The 'revelatory plot structure' of the story is "character-oriented" as Chatman (1978: 48) rightly puts in.

⁶⁹⁹ Stibbe (1993: 50) says, "Jesus' characterization reveals a number of qualities . . . the language of Jesus from v. 19 onwards reveals a new characteristic. Here he takes a concrete object from his immediate, local context and infuses it with symbolic, spiritual meaning". See Barrett, 1978: 194-202; Painter, 1993: 192-5; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9; Carson, 1991: 176-84; Newman and Nida, 1980: 64-71; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91.

⁷⁰⁰ Aune (1987: 32-36) considers 'content', 'form', and 'function' as the generic features of a literary form.

⁷⁰¹ While section 1:19-2:11 develops as a multi-slotted and multi-layered dialogic episode, the section 2:13-22 develops as a single-slotted episode.

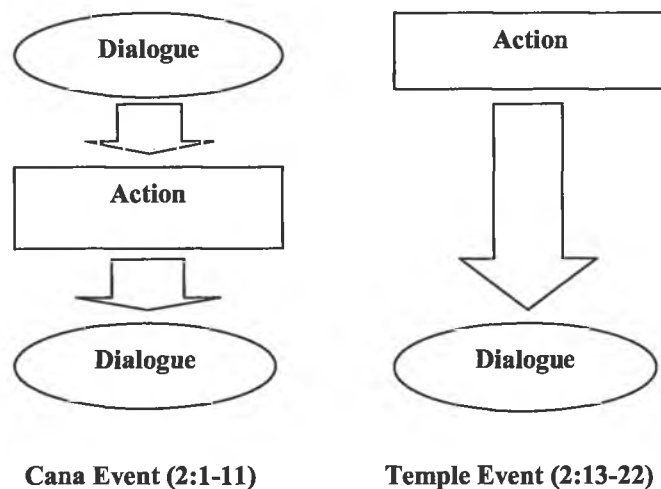


Diagram 12: The 'Cana Dialogue' and the 'Temple Dialogue'

Two of the action-centered dialogues which appear in 2:1-11 and 2:13-22⁷⁰² portray the narratorial descriptions on the basis of several factors: *first*, narrative settings (one is at a house context and the other is in the Jerusalem temple context); *second*, natures (one is a *dialogue-action* sequential slot and the other is an *action-dialogue* sequential episode; see Diagram 12);⁷⁰³ *third*, contents (while one has 'new wine' as the central theme, the other has 'new temple' as its theme; cf. Van der Watt, 2007: 13; Köstenberger, 1999: 75-8); and *fourth*, intertextuality (while one has dialogues mostly at the individual levels, the other has dialogue at the community level).⁷⁰⁴ Raising the level of Jesus' activity from a village home atmosphere to the Jerusalem headquarters can be considered as an intentional masterplan of the narrator (cf. Painter, 1999: 5; Neyrey, 2007: 71-2). In 2:23, the narrator mentions that Jesus' popularity was increasing among the people due to his miraculous signs (see Borchert, 1996: 167; Herzog, 1992: 819-20). The two incidents in chapter two (2:1-12 and 2:13-22) establish the protagonist's role both as a *worker* and as a *transformer* (cf. Van der Watt, 2000: 106).⁷⁰⁵ Both the *request-rebuke-response* and *challenge-and-riposte* methods used here are reflecting the diverse dialogical trends in the Gospel.⁷⁰⁶ Moloney (1998: 76) points out that:

⁷⁰² See Carson, 1991: 176-84, with 166-75; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 37-43 in comparison to 32-6; Painter, 1999: 5, with 189-92; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9, with 65-72; Newman and Nida, 1980: 64-71, with 54-63; Barrett, 1978: 194-202, with 188-94; Stibbe, 1993: 49-53, with 42-49.

⁷⁰³ One appears as a concluding slot of a larger episode and the other as an independent dialogical narrative. Moloney (1998: 75) concludes that, "it seems clear that both the Miracle of Cana and the Cleansing of the Temple are episodes which signify the same fundamental truth: that Christ has come to inaugurate a new order in religion".

⁷⁰⁴ Keener (2003: 1: 517-31; cf. Dodd, 1960: 301) entitles the whole section (2:13-22) as "The Old and New Temple". Moloney (1998: 75) says, "The account of the purification of the Temple is well represented in the synoptic tradition (cf. Mark 11:15-17; Matthew 21:12-13; Luke 19:45-46). The author of the Fourth Gospel has used a unique version of the tradition at the beginning, rather than at the end of the story of Jesus. Whatever the prehistory of the Johannine tradition, it has been carefully shaped".

⁷⁰⁵ It also hints both to the 'rural' and to the 'urban' mission involvements of Jesus.

⁷⁰⁶ Compare and contrast John 2:1-11 with 2:13-22 in the previous discussions. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 37-43 in comparison to 32-6; Painter, 1999: 5, with 189-92; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 72-9, with 65-72; Stibbe, 1993: 49-53, with 42-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 64-71, with 54-63; Blomberg, 2001: 87-91, with 85-7; Carson, 1991: 176-84, with 166-75; Barrett, 1978: 194-202, with 188-94.

The literary shape of this passage has close links with 2:1-12. Both have an introduction (vv. 1-2, 13), a combination of dialogue and action (vv. 3-10 [dialogue-action-dialogue], 14-20 [action-dialogue]) and concluding comments from the narrator (vv. 11-12, 21-25). While 2:1-12 is described as a 'sign' by the narrator (v. 11), 2:13-25 is highlighted by a request for a 'sign' (v. 18) and concludes with many in Jerusalem going to Jesus because of 'the signs' that he did (v. 23).

It is not only the narratives that contribute towards the advancement of the dialogue, but also the dialogue contributes towards the advancement of the narratives. The use of the dialogue for the narrative progression can be perceived in the following way: *first*, the 'active voice' utterance units within the narrative framework divert the attention of the reader from the past tense narratorial flow of the story to the present tense dialogical interaction.⁷⁰⁷ The 'active voice' utterance units of the characters help the reader to have the direct information to compare with the second hand information of the 'passive voice' explanations; *second*, the rhetorical devices employed in the utterance units forcefully interlock the reader with the content of the text; *third*, the 'I-and-you' interactive language (cf. vv. 16b, 18b, 19b, 20b) of the dialogue is more reader-friendly than the 'he-and-they' indirect language (vv. 13-16a, 21-22) of the narratives.⁷⁰⁸ While the 'I-and-you' language of the dialogue has 'direct communication power', the 'he-and-they' language of the narrative is used as a means of 'indirect communication';⁷⁰⁹ and *fourth*, through the dialogues the narrator foregrounds the characters and their ideological points of view before the reader. The contribution of the dialogue toward the narrative helps the reader to get involved in the 'live' discussion of the text.

Jesus as the principal character of John's story utters arguments in order to interact and confront his interlocutors. His symbolic action and the metaphorical speech in 2:13-22 determine the dramatic features of the narrative. When discussing the Platonic dialogues, Kraut (1992: 29; cf. Schaeffer, 1988: 388-9) opines that, "in each dialogue he [i.e., Plato] uses his principal interlocutor to support or oppose certain conclusions by means of certain arguments". What Kraut says about the Platonic dialogues is also true with the dialogues of John. John's portrayal of the argumentative nature of Jesus (vv. 16b and 19b) adds rhetorical power to the text.

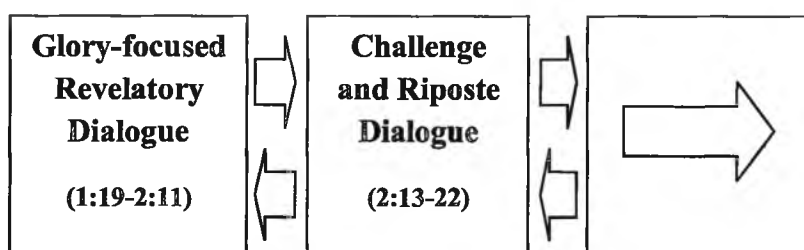


Diagram 13: The placement of the second episode

⁷⁰⁷ While vv. 13-16a, 17-18a, 19a, 20a, and 21-22 are in 'passive voice' format and are from the narrator, vv. 16b, 18b, 19b, and 20b are in 'active voice' format and are directly from the mouth of the actual characters of the story.

⁷⁰⁸ While the first and second person pronouns are more interactive and dialogical, the third person pronouns are used more in narratorial discussions.

⁷⁰⁹ For more details about the use of the "blend of everyday, ordinary language and a 'special language' suitable to the Johannine community" read, Petersen, 1993. The 'direct' and 'indirect' communication of the text can be determined as follows: *first*, 'direct' communications are conveyed through the flesh-and-blood characters of the story, and by means of 'active voice' format; and *second*, 'indirect' communications are conveyed through the mediation of the narrator, usually put in 'passive voice' format.

The dialogue in 2:13-22 is placed between two of the other dialogic episodes (i.e., 1:19-2:3:1-21). The placement of the episode between the episodes of 1:19-2:11 and 3:1-21 making a bridging episode (cf. Borchert, 1996: 125-86; see Diagram 13).⁷¹⁰ With this knowledge about dynamisms and plot structures of dialogues in the first two episodes, the reader will be able to move forward to the complex dialogues in the succeeding episodes of the BS (cf. Borchert 1996: 168-9; Petersen, 1993: 38-9).

Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
<p>Content: Jesus' concern about his Father's house and his wish to fulfill the task of the Father, shift of emphasis from the literal temple (i.e., the temple of Jerusalem) to the "new and eschatological temple" (i.e., Jesus' body) // Form: Action (i.e., 'Temple Cleansing') followed by a dialogue (i.e., 'Temple Logion'), <i>challenge-and-riposte</i>, fulfillment-oriented // Function: It persuades the reader to edify faith in Jesus (i.e., the 'New Temple')</p>	<p>The dialogue of the episode has a <i>challenge-and-riposte</i> format and that is preceded by an action (hence, the pericope has an <i>action-to-dialogue</i> sequence). The revelatory aspects (like, the inappropriate atmosphere of the literal temple of Jerusalem and Jesus' appearance in the 'new temple') are conveyed within the framework of a <i>challenge and riposte</i> dialogue.</p>

Table 14: The summary of the dialogue of the second episode

⁷¹⁰ Barus (2006: 134; cf. Chatman, 1978: 62-95) says that, "The plot—the structuring or organising line of the narrative—is forward-moving. This is the logic and the shaping force of the narrative. If the plot is the body of the narrative, the characters are the soul The characters embody the plot insofar as their response is either belief or unbelief". In the words of Culpepper (1983: 90), "The plot emerges more clearly with Jesus' dramatic opposition to the abuse of temple. Jerusalem is established as the locus of Jesus' sharpest conflict with unbelief which is hardened by misunderstanding of the scriptures, institutions, and festivals of Judaism".

Episode Three

A *Pedagogical* Dialogue Leading to a Monologue (3:1-21)

The *challenge and riposte dialogue* at 2:13-22 is followed by one of the most significant dialogues that lead to a monologue at 3:1-21. The narrator's ability to use 2:23-25 both as a conclusion and as an introduction to the temple narrative (2:13-22) and to the succeeding Nicodemus narrative (3:1-21) is commendable (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 52-3; Brodie, 1993: 195).⁷¹¹ John 3:1-21 has a dialogue at the beginning (vv. 1-10) and a monologue at the end (vv. 10-21; cf. Reinhartz, 1994: 571). In the following discussion, we will analyse 3:1-21 carefully.

3.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

Nicodemus appears three times in the Gospel of John: one lengthy appearance at 3:1-21 and two cameo appearances at 7:50-52 and 19:39.⁷¹² The following description enables the reader to determine the setting of Nicodemus' lengthy appearance in 3:1-21: *first*, the previous episode (2:13-22), where we read about Jesus' travel from Capernaum to Jerusalem (2:12-13);⁷¹³ *second*, the references to Jesus being in the temple at Jerusalem from 2:14 and onward;⁷¹⁴ *third*, the introduction to the time of Passover in 2:23 (cf. 2:13);⁷¹⁵ and *fourth*, the expression Ἦν δὲ in 3:1⁷¹⁶ where a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews, is said to come to Jesus at night. This sequence of events is very important for understanding the setting of the narrative in 3:1-21

⁷¹¹ As Stibbe (1993: 51) says further, "In 2:13-25, the narrator describes events from an enlightened, post-resurrection point of view. The remembrance motif brings this out strongly What we have in 2:13-25 is a narrator who describes events retrospectively".

⁷¹² Smith (1999: 93) opines that, "The appearance of Nicodemus obviously introduces a new episode, which runs through verse 21". See Resseguie, 2005: 245; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Carson, 1991: 185-208, 332-3, 629-30.

⁷¹³ Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 63-6; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Barrett, 1978: 194-7; Carson, 1991: 175-8; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 70-2; Painter, 1993: 192-3; Brown, 1966: 129-49.

⁷¹⁴ Hendriksen (1961: 1: 122) is of the view that, "Now at this occasion Jesus, entering Jerusalem's temple, notices that the court of the Gentiles had been changed into what must have resembled a stockyard". See Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 73-4; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Carson, 1991: 178; Barrett, 1978: 197; Painter, 1993: 192-3; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Newman and Nida, 1980: 66.

⁷¹⁵ Keener (2003: 531) says that, "This brief pericope (i.e., vv. 23-25) is transitional, connecting those who respond to Jesus' signs in 2:1-22 with the incomplete faith of Nicodemus in 3:1-10. In 2:11 the disciples responded to Jesus' sign with faith, but 2:23-24 makes clear that sign-faith, unless it progresses to discipleship, is inadequate". See Carson, 1991: 184; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Newman and Nida, 1980: 72; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 75.

⁷¹⁶ The episode begins with the narratorial expression Ἦν δὲ and the narrator continues the story by making use of several story-telling techniques. It begins with the introductory statement of the narrator in vv. 1-2a. δὲ, a conjunctive participle, marking the superaddition of a clause, whether in opposition or in continuation, to what has preceded, and it may be variously rendered *but*, *on the other hand*, *and*, *also*, *now*. Cf. Preschbacher, 1990: 86.

(see Table 15).⁷¹⁷ Neyrey (2007: 76) suggests that, “. . . we remember that in 2:24-25 Jesus trust himself to the people in Jerusalem who allegedly believed in him because of signs, knew what was in everyone. This extends also to 3:1-21, when another Jerusalemite comes because of signs”. From what Neyrey says here we understand that the conjunctive particle (3:1) is used in order to mark the narrative progression from the previous episodes to the last. Nicodemus comes to Jesus by night⁷¹⁸ and engages in a conversation, the section in 3:1-21 is as a ‘Night Time Dialogue’ (cf. Smith, 1999: 93-4; Kermode, 1987: 450). The coming of Nicodemus to Jesus at night in an unspecified location and time marks the *temporal* nature of the setting (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87, 108-10; Powell, 1990: 72-4).⁷¹⁹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 47) that, “More probably we are dealing with a visit of Jesus to Jerusalem for a Passover festival without closer definition of time”.⁷²⁰ From these details the reader is informed that the setting of the Nicodemus story (in 3:1-21) is *religious* (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87, 113-4).⁷²¹ The Passover festival season suggests a *religious setting*, the coming of Nicodemus during the time sets a *temporal setting* for the story (see the dialogue scripture in Table 15).

Episode 3: John 3:1-21	
Dialogue Section (vv. 2b-10) ⁷²²	<p><i>Nicodemus</i>: Παββί, οἶδαμεν ὅτι ἀπὸ θεοῦ ἐλήλυθας διδάσκαλος· οὐδεὶς γὰρ δύναται τα σημεῖα ποιεῖν ἃ σὺ ποιεῖς, ἂν μὴ ᾗ ὁ θεὸς μετ’ αὐτοῦ</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι, ἂν μὴ τις γεννηθῇ ἄνωθεν, οὐ δύναται ἰδεῖν τὴν βασιλεῖα τοῦ θεοῦ</p> <p><i>Nicodemus</i>: Πῶς δύναται ἄνθρωπος γεννηθῆναι γέρων ὢν; μὴ δύναται εἰς τὴν κοιλίαν μητρὸς αὐτοῦ δεύτερον εἰσελθεῖν καὶ γεννηθῆναι;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι, ἂν μὴ τις γεννηθῇ ἐξ ὕδατος καὶ πνεύματος, οὐ δύναται εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ. τὸ γεγεννημένον ἐκ τῆς σαρκὸς σὰρξ ἐστίν, καὶ γεγεννημένον ἐκ τοῦ πνεύματος πνεῦμά ἐστιν. μὴ θαυμάσης ὅτι εἶπόν σοι, Δεῖ ὑμᾶς γεννηθῆναι ἄνωθεν. τὸ πνεῦμα ὅπου θέλει πνεῖ καὶ τὴν φωνὴν αὐτοῦ ἀκούεις, ἀλλ’ οὐ</p>

⁷¹⁷ In v. 22 readers are brought to the position of a post-resurrection memory of the disciples through a narrator. John’s post-resurrection narration and perspective is very conspicuous here. Ridderbos (1987/1997: 123; cf. 1991: 57; Talbert, 1992: 97) suggests that, “The conversation with Nicodemus offers a very specific elaboration of what was said in a more general sense in 2:23-25. In the figure of Nicodemus we are given an illustration—perhaps we may say *par excellence*—of what in the preceding is called ‘the faith’ of the Jerusalem who were impressed by the signs that Jesus did”.

⁷¹⁸ Michaels (1984/1989: 55) states that, “It is probably out of fear that Nicodemus comes to Jesus at night. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-1; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Carson, 1991: 185-6; Bennema, 2006: 100; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 47; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Moloney, 1998: 88-103.

⁷¹⁹ Powell (1990: 72-4; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 108-9) identifies two types of temporal settings: chronological and typological. He also uses Ricoeur’s distinction between mortal time and monumental time to describe the settings (cf. Ricoeur, 1984/1985/1988). Powell (1990: 74) says that, “Mortal time is measured by calendars, clocks, and sundials. Monumental time, on the other hand, refers to the broad sweep of time that includes and transcends history”.

⁷²⁰ Beasley-Murray (1987: 47) also states that, “The impression is given that the context is the Passover at which Jesus cleansed the temple. This caused Tatian, who compiled a gospel harmony in the second century, to set the Nicodemus passage in the last week of Jesus in Jerusalem, a precedent that has attracted some moderns”.

⁷²¹ Resseguie (2005: 113) says that, “Religious days and feasts (Sabbath, Passover, Tabernacles) are set in the context of healings and for conflicts between Jesus and the authorities”. Jesus’ usual tendency of visiting Jerusalem during the festival seasons also has to be seriously considered here.

⁷²² As the dialogue begins in v. 2b, the narrator’s role is restricted into vv. 3a, 4a, 5a, 9a, and 10a as he introduces utterances to the readers.

	<p>πόθεν ἔρχεται καὶ ποῦ ὑπάγει· οὕτως ἐστὶν πᾶς ὁ γεγεννημένος ἐκ τοῦ πνεύματος.</p> <p><i>Nicodemus</i>: Πῶς δύναται ταῦτα γενέσθαι;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Σὺ εἶ ὁ διδάσκαλος τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ καὶ ταῦτα οὐ γινώσκεις;</p>
Monologue Section (vv. 11-21) ⁷²³	<p><i>Jesus</i>: ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι ὅτι ὃ οἶδαμεν λαλοῦμεν καὶ ὃ ἐωράκαμεν μαρτυροῦμεν, καὶ τὴν μαρτυρίαν ἡμῶν οὐ λαμβάνετε. εἰ τὰ ἐπίγεια εἶπον ὑμῖν καὶ οὐ πιστεύετε, πῶς ἂν εἴπω ὑμῖν τὰ ἐπουράνια πιστεύσετε; καὶ οὐδεὶς ἀναβέβηκεν εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν εἰ μὴ ὁ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καταβάς, ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου. καὶ καθὼς Μωϋσῆς ὕψωσεν τὸν ὄφιν ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, οὕτως ὕψωθῆναι δεῖ τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων ἐν αὐτῷ ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον.</p> <p>Οὕτως γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν κόσμον, ὥστε τὸν υἱὸν τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλ' ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον.</p> <p>οὐ γὰρ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν υἱὸν εἰς τὸν κόσμον ἵνα κρίνῃ τὸν κόσμον, ἀλλ' ἵνα σωθῇ ὁ κόσμος δι' αὐτοῦ. ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν οὐ κρίνεται· ὁ δὲ μὴ πιστεύων ἤδη κέκριται, ὅτι μὴ πεπίστευκεν εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ μονογενοῦς υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ. αὕτη δέ ἐστιν ἡ κρίσις ὅτι τὸ φῶς ἐλήλυθεν εἰς τὸν κόσμον καὶ ἠγάπησαν οἱ ἄνθρωποι μᾶλλον τὸ σκότος ἢ τὸ φῶς· ἦν γὰρ αὐτῶν πονηρὰ τὰ ἔργα. πᾶς γὰρ ὁ φαῦλα πράσαςον μισεῖ τὸ φῶς καὶ οὐκ ἔρχεται πρὸς τὸ φῶς, ἵνα μὴ ἐλεγχθῇ τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ· ὁ δὲ ποιῶν τὴν ἀλήθειαν ἔρχεται πρὸς τὸ φῶς, ἵνα φανερωθῇ αὐτοῦ τὰ ἔργα ὅτι ἐν θεῷ ἐστὶν εἰργασμένα.</p>

Table 15: The dialogue text of 3:1-21

3.2. Micro-Analysis

The content of the dialogue can be determined on the basis of the semantic domains of the utterance units.⁷²⁴ While the narrator introduces the interlocutors and their talk units, s/he presents them and the connected events from a certain point of view. The narrator of the story reflects her/his perspective through the medium of the characters' dialogues and their activities. In the current story, Nicodemus comes to Jesus by night (νυκτός) and the dialogue begins then (cf. Paulien, 1992: 4: 1105-6; De Jonge, 1977: 29).⁷²⁵ The narrator describes all this about Nicodemus in one sentence (i.e., ἄνθρωπος [cf. Sand, 1990: 1: 100-4], Φαρισαῖος [cf. Weiss, 1974: 9: 11-48; Saldarini, 1992: 5: 289-303], Νικόδημος [see Paulien, 1992: 4: 1105-6],⁷²⁶ and ἄρχων τῶν

⁷²³ When the dialogue finishes in v. 10 and the monologue begins in v. 11, the narrator disappears behind the scene as a voiceless figure (see vv. 11-21).

⁷²⁴ Witherington (1995: 93) addresses John 3:1-12 as "The First Dialogue" section. It is a common view among scholars that John's dialogue begin with chapter three; but, a detailed study enables us to learn that John's dialogue begins with the dialogue between John the Baptist and the emissaries from Jerusalem in 1:19-28. Cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 75-108.

⁷²⁵ Wallace (1996: 123-24) opines that, "With the gen . . . the emphasis is on the *kind* of time in which Nicodemus came to see the Lord. The gospel writer puts a great deal of emphasis on dark vs. light; the gen. For time highlights it here". Köstenberger (2004: 117) says that, "Although John focuses exclusively on the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus, disciples of both teachers may have been present as well". See Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Carson, 1991: 185-208.

⁷²⁶ See the usage of "Paranthetic Nominative" here. Wallace (1996: 53-4) defines that, "A paranthetic nominative is actually the subject in a clause inside a sentence that may or may not have a different subject". For example: Νικόδημος ὄνομα αὐτοῦ (John 3: 1).

Ἰουδαίων,⁷²⁷ v. 1) and then presents the dialogue (vv. 2-10). Resseguie (2005: 246; cf. Ellis 6-7; Koester, 1995: 45) points out that, “Just as Jesus and ‘light’ are mutually defining terms gospel, Nicodemus and ‘night’ are complimentary terms”. The dualistic tension between spirit and flesh, light and darkness, and the world ‘from above’ and the world ‘from below’ is an important feature all through the narrative (cf. Beets, 1995: 105; Gench, 2007: 20).⁷²⁸ Nicodemus’ utterance in v. 2b refers to two important things about Jesus: *first*, Jesus is a teacher who has come from God (Ῥαββί, οἶδαμεν ὅτι ἀπὸ θεοῦ ἐλήλυθας διδάσκαλος);⁷²⁹ and *second*, he does signs by the presence of God (οὐδεὶς γὰρ δύναται ταῦτα τὰ σημεῖα ποιεῖν ἢ σὺ ποιεῖς, ἔα ὁ θεὸς μετ’ αὐτοῦ).⁷³⁰ In the episode, the narrator introduces Jesus by means of the words of Nicodemus—“Rabbi” (Ῥαββί), “teacher who has come from God” (ἀπὸ θεοῦ ἐλθὼν διδάσκαλος), “performer of signs”,⁷³¹ and “one who enjoys the presence of God” (ἐὰν μὴ ᾖ μετ’ αὐτοῦ).⁷³² Moloney (1998: 91) says that, “Almost every element of Nicodemus’ address is found in an earlier, partial, confession of faith in Jesus. The first disciples called Jesus ‘Rabbi’ (1:38), and after some time with him they confidently asserted ‘we have found’ (1:41, 45)”. The expression οἶδαμεν (of Nicodemus) discloses the popularity of Jesus among the people and his emissary of God.⁷³⁴ Nicodemus’ addressing of Jesus reveals that he approaches and initiates a dialogue from several preconceived ideas about his identity (v. 3b; see Table 16).

⁷²⁷ Merk (1990: 1: 167-8; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 133; Weiss, 1974: 9: 44) states that, “In John 3:1; 7:26, 4:13 ἀρχων/ἄρχοντες denotes individual members or several members of the Sanhedrin who, in contrast to ‘the Jews’ or ‘the Pharisees’, are open in their attitude toward the message of Jesus”.

⁷²⁸ See Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Carson, 1991: 185-208.

⁷²⁹ Witherington (1995: 94; cf. Dodd, 1963: 328-9) says that, “The words ‘from God’ in v. 2 are in an important position, indicating that Nicodemus thinks highly of Jesus, perhaps seeing him as a prophet”. The narrator presents Jesus’ unique role as a teacher from above over against all the teachers from below (where Nicodemus stands as a representative character).

⁷³⁰ Bernard (1929: 1: 101) is who holds the view that, “Nicodemus was ready to address Jesus as *Rabbi*, but he did not recognise in Him a divinely sent διδάσκαλος. This was not to recognise Him as Messiah; but Nicodemus and his class, like the blindman of 9:33, were convinced by the signs which Jesus did that He had come ἀπὸ θεοῦ (John 16:30)”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Stibbe, 1993: 53-5; and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Brown, 1966: 129-49.

⁷³¹ The construction οὐδεὶς γὰρ δύναται ταῦτα τὰ σημεῖα proves that he was a “better sign performer”.

⁷³² Borchert (1996: 170-1) argues that, “Nicodemus, representing his learned group, began by addressing Jesus with the polite title ‘Rabbi’. In so doing, he ‘graciously’ acknowledged Jesus as his equal, even though Jesus was not popularly recognised by council members as one of the ‘ignorant’, the working people of the land (‘*am ha-‘ara*’).” Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9.

⁷³³ Moloney (1998: 92) also comments that, “He [Nicodemus] approached Jesus as a rabbi, a miracle worker and teacher (v. 2), but finds himself confronted with an affirmation beyond his comprehension”. Moloney (1998: 92) also says that, “Nathanael believed that Jesus was Rabbi, son of God and King of Israel on the basis of Jesus’ miracle knowledge (1:49) and many in Jerusalem came to him because of the signs he did”.

⁷³⁴ Köstenberger (2004: 121; cf. Carson, 1991: 187; Barrett, 1978: 202, 205; Brown, 1966: 137) opines that, “Nicodemus’ use of the plural οἶδαμεν (we know) may indicate that he was speaking for a group in the Sanhedrin (Pharisees) that was impressed by Jesus’ signs”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Carson, 1991: 185-208; and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52.

John 3:1-10 (11-21)	Overview
<p>v.1: Ἦν δὲ ἄνθρωπος ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων, Νικόδημος ὄνομα αὐτῷ, ἄρχων τῶν Ἰουδαίων·</p> <p>v.2: οὗτος ἦλθεν πρὸς αὐτὸν νυκτὸς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Ῥαββί, οἶδμεν ὅτι ἀπὸ θεοῦ ἐλήλυθας διδάσκαλος· οὐδεὶς γὰρ δύναται ταῦτα τὰ σημεῖα ποιεῖν ἃ σὺ ποιεῖς, ἐὰν μὴ ᾗ ὁ θεὸς μετ’ αὐτοῦ.</p> <p>v.3: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι, ἐὰν μὴ τις γεννηθῇ ἄνωθεν, οὐ δύναται ἰδεῖν τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ.</p> <p>v.4: λέγει πρὸς αὐτὸν [ὁ] Νικόδημος, Πῶς δύναται ἄνθρωπος γεννηθῆναι γέρων ὢν; μὴ δύναται εἰς τὴν κοιλίαν τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ δεύτερον εἰσελθεῖν καὶ γεννηθῆναι;</p> <p>v.5: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι, ἐὰν μὴ τις γεννηθῇ ἐξ ὕδατος καὶ πνεύματος, οὐ δύναται εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ.</p> <p>v.6: τὸ γεγεννημένον ἐκ τῆς σαρκὸς σὰρξ ἐστίν, καὶ τὸ γεγεννημένον ἐκ τοῦ πνεύματος πνεῦμά ἐστιν.</p> <p>v.7: μὴ θαυμάσης ὅτι εἰπὼν σοι, Δεῖ ὑμᾶς γεννηθῆναι ἄνωθεν.</p> <p>v.8: τὸ πνεῦμα ὅπου θέλει πνεῖ καὶ τὴν φωνὴν αὐτοῦ ἀκούεις, ἀλλ’ οὐκ οἶδας πόθεν ἔρχεται καὶ ποῦ ὑπάγει· οὕτως ἐστὶν πᾶς ὁ γεγεννημένος ἐκ τοῦ πνεύματος.</p> <p>v.9: ἀπεκρίθη Νικόδημος καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Πῶς δύναται ταῦτα γενέσθαι;</p> <p>v.10: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Σὺ εἰ ὁ διδάσκαλος τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ καὶ ταῦτα οὐ γινώσκεις;</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue at vv. 1-10 is comprised of six utterance units (vv. 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b-8, 9b, and 10b); out of the six utterance units three are of Nicodemus (vv. 2b, 4b, and 9b) and three are of Jesus (vv. 3b, 5b-8, and 10b);</p> <p>(2) The dialogue of vv. 1-10 leads to a monologue (vv. 11-21);</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are arranged in the following way: pure narrative (vv. 1-2a) and formula narratives (vv. 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 9a, and 10a);</p> <p>(4) While the length of Nicodemus’ utterances lessen one after another and, finally, become voiceless (vv. 2b, 4b, and 9b), Jesus’ utterances become progressively longer (vv. 3b, 5b-8, 10b, 11-21).</p>

Table 16: The dialogue of 3:1-10 within the narratorial framework

Jesus’ response in v. 3 is a veracious statement that delineates the necessity of a human for ‘being born from above’ (γεννηθῇ ἄνωθεν, cf. Büchsel, 1964: 678; Beutler, 1990: 1: 112-3) and to see the kingdom of God (ἰδεῖν τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ, cf. Bernard, 1929: 1: 102; Culpepper, 2001: 256).⁷³⁵ Jesus’ involvement as the teacher ‘from above’ who speaks the truth contradicts well with the position of Nicodemus as a teacher ‘from below’ who does not recognise the truth of the kingdom of God (cf. Caragounis, 2001: 126-7; Sadananda, 2004: 221).⁷³⁶ Nicodemus’ second response is framed in the form of two questions:⁷³⁷ *first*, Πῶς δύναται ἄνθρωπος γεννηθῆναι γέρων ὢν;⁷³⁸ and *second*, μὴ δύναται εἰς τὴν κοιλίαν τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ δεύτερον εἰσελθεῖν καὶ

⁷³⁵ Köstenberger (2004: 123; cf. Vellanickal, 1977: 169-73) says that, “The reference to being “born again/from above” is startling and unexpected. Nevertheless, the notion of a new beginning and a decisive inner transformation of a person’s life is also found in certain OT prophetic passages (e.g., Jer 31:33-34; Eze 11:19-20; 36:25-27). This concept of a new spiritual birth is not dissimilar to that of a ‘new creation’ (cf. 2 Cor 5:17; Gal 6:15)”. Wallace (1996: 347) explains that, “The indefinite pronoun (τις, τι) is used to introduce a member of a class without further identification. It is used both substantively (as a true pronoun) and adjectivally. It can be translated *anyone*, *someone*, *a certain*, or simply *a(n)*” (see 3:3).

⁷³⁶ Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Stibbe, 1993: 53-9; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9.

⁷³⁷ Blomberg (2001: 91) says that, “In response to Jesus’ ministry in Jerusalem, a leading Pharisee engages in dialogue this upstart teacher. The interchange partially resembles those found in the synoptic controversy stories, although the climactic pronouncement (3:3, 5) appears early on, rather than at the end of the account”.

⁷³⁸ Moloney (1998: 98) opines that, “Greek *anthrōpos*, appears again. It is possible that the author means ‘a man’, since Nicodemus is male and asks the question of himself, now adult and being instructed on the need to be born again”.

γεννηθῆναι; (v. 4; cf. Berchert, 1996: 173; Witherington, 1995: 95).⁷³⁹ In Jesus' extended response to these questions, he brings the following things to the attention of his interlocutor: *first*, born of water and Spirit (γεννηθῆναι ἐξ ὕδατος καὶ πνεύματος) is a requirement for entering the kingdom of God (εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ, v. 5; cf. Vellanickal, 1977: 19; Bartholomä, 2010: 81); *second*, the distinction between those who are born of the flesh (γεγεννημένον ἐκ τῆς σαρκὸς) and those who are born of the Spirit (τὸ γεγεννημένον ἐκ τοῦ πνεύματος, vv. 6, 8; cf. Wallace, 1996: 234; Büchsel, 1964: 671-2); and *third*, the need of 'being born from above', which he emphasises by repeatedly mentioning (v. 7; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 19; Quast, 1991: 25-6).⁷⁴⁰ Newman and Nida (1980: 75-94; cf. Caragounis, 2001: 126-7) state that "Verses 1-8 are controlled by the truth that birth from above is necessary before one can enter the Kingdom. But Nicodemus fails to understand what Jesus is talking about, and his inability to grasp what Jesus means serves as a transition in the dialogue (v. 9)".⁷⁴¹ Jesus' explanation of his response causes Nicodemus to ask yet another question (v. 9): "How can these things be possible? ὅπως δύναται ταῦτα γενέσθαι; cf. Moloney, 1998: 100; Büchsel, 1964: 671-2).⁷⁴² Jesus in response to this further question to Nicodemus before he goes on with his discourse in vv. (10)11-21: ὁ διδάσκαλος τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ καὶ ταῦτα οὐ γινώσκεις; (v. 10; cf. Wallace, 1996: 223; Bennema, 1998: 78; see Table 16).⁷⁴³ The question of Jesus in v. 10 is a transition utterance that ceases the dialogue section (vv. 2b-10) and begins the monologue section (vv. 10-21; cf. Bailey and VanderKam, 1992: 173-5).⁷⁴⁴ John 3:1-10 is viewed as a conversation between Jesus the Rabbi and Nicodemus.

⁷³⁹ Moloney (1998: 98) says that, "Nicodemus' use of *deuteron* indicates that he chooses only the temporal meaning of *amōthen*. The Johannine misunderstanding technique demands that—on this occasion—both the temporal and the spiritual be involved". See Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94.

⁷⁴⁰ Borchert (1996: 173) says that, "Jesus responded to Nicodemus' twofold frustrated question by providing a more precise statement concerning this birth. He began once again with a double *amēn* statement". Cf. Carson, 1991: 185-208; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5.

⁷⁴¹ The punch line of the narrative, 'God so loved the evil world in order to redeem the world through his only begotten Son', is revealed as a developmental talk that begins with a dialogue (vv. 2b-10) and flourishes in the monologue (vv. 10-21). Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 53-9; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Painter, 1993: 195-9.

⁷⁴² Brown (1966: 144-45) puts it, "With this question, Nicodemus' role in the scene has been played; like so many of the characters in the Johannine discourses he has served as a foil whose misunderstanding or failure to understand causes Jesus to expound his revelation in detail".

⁷⁴³ Köstenberger (2004: 125) is of the opinion that, "By calling Nicodemus 'Israel's teacher', Jesus may be paying him a compliment in 3:2, where that rabbi had called Jesus 'a teacher come from God' (cf. 3:11). The article before 'teacher' in the original may suggest that Nicodemus was an established, recognized teacher". See Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 132; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Barrett, 1978: 211; Morris, 1995: 195; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Carson, 1991: 185-208. Referring to Jesus' counter-question in v. 10, Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 80-9) state that, "... in private the put-down points to Nicodemus as a presumably higher-status, learned person really unqualified to assess the matter at hand". Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 84) further say that, "In antiquity this sort of put-down was directed at those interested in things of the spirit but who were unable to properly understand life on earth". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Beasley-Murray, 2001: 91-5; Brown, 1966: 129-49.

⁷⁴⁴ Newman and Nida (1980: 75-94) continue that, "Jesus then indicates that his own authority (and the authority of his followers, cf. v. 11) and the authority of his message have come from heaven. Verse 13 then serves as a climactic statement".

the teacher of Israel on the topic of “being born from above” (cf. Lindars, 1972: 150-1; Kynes, 1992: 575).⁷⁴⁵

As it is in the case of the previous two responses of Jesus (vv. 3, 5-8), in the discourse Jesus also employs an ἀμὴν ἀμὴν formula (v. 11; cf. Howard, 1952: 8: 507; Carson, 1991: 185-208).⁷⁴⁶ The content of the monologue can broadly be divided into two sections (vv. 10-15, 16-21).⁷⁴⁷ The first section (vv. 10-15) deals with the unbelieving nature of the Jewish community (where Nicodemus is a representative character). In this section, Jesus relates three important aspects: the lifting up of the Son of Man (cf. Ashton, 1991: 348-9), belief in him, and the attainment of the experience of eternal life (cf. Painter, 1993: 195-9; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5).⁷⁴⁸ The *intertextual* feature within the discourse (3:14; cf. Num 21:19) calls the reader’s attention toward a wider dialogical spectrum. Jesus brings his ultimate superiority over the Law and Moses to the attention of his interlocutor.⁷⁴⁹ In one sense, Jesus introduces himself as one ascended into heaven in comparison to Moses as one who never gone to heaven; in other sense, Jesus is one *to be lifted up* (Gk. ὑψωθῆναι) over against Moses who had *lifted up* (Gk. ὑψωσεν) the serpent in the wilderness (cf. Van der Watt, 2000: 107-8; Gench, 2007: 23).⁷⁵⁰ The second section (vv. 16-21) discusses God’s expression of love toward the world by sending his τὸν υἱὸν τὸν μονογενῆ and human responsibility of attaining eternal life by believing in the Son (cf. Wallace, 1996: 620-1; Milne, 1993: 77-8). Stibbe (1993: 58) attempts to see another intertextual echo with the story of Abraham and Isaac in John 3:16 (cf. Gen 22:1-19). He (1993: 58) states that, “A parallelism is suggested between Abraham and Isaac and God the Father and his Son”.⁷⁵¹ In vv. 17-21, the need of believing in the Son of God is emphasised by

Jesus has said and as a transition to verses 14-17”. They (1980: 75-94) say further that, “One of the problems in verses 13-21 is that of identifying the speaker—another example of the difficulty of the Johannine discourse. John so interweaves his own theological statements with the words of Jesus that it is difficult to tell where Jesus finishes speaking and where the Gospel writer himself begins”.

⁷⁴⁵ The aspect of the “birth from above” can be understood in terms of one’s personal relationship with God through Jesus. It is an experience of beginning to grow in Christ while continuing in the “world from below”. Kynes (1992: 575) says that, “Integral to the teaching of the new birth is the notion that natural growth and development will not suffice. A radical discontinuity with the past and a fundamental internal change is required if one is to enter the kingdom of God”.

⁷⁴⁶ See Brown, 1966: 129-49; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Moloney, 1998: 88-103.

⁷⁴⁷ Brown (1966: 149) mentions that, “. . . some verses of this division of chap. 3 belong to Jesus’ discourse with Nicodemus and the rest are an added commentary by the evangelist The two principal places suggested within these verses for the change of speaker are v. 13 and v. 16”.

⁷⁴⁸ Moloney (1998: 95; cf. Bernard, 1929: 1: 111) opines that, “Jesus affirms the uniqueness of the revelation of the Son of Man by means of a strong contradiction (οὐδεὶς) of any suggestion that the great revealers of Israel had been to heaven, seen the heavenly secrets, and returned to reveal them”.

⁷⁴⁹ Jesus states: οὐδεὶς ἀναβέβηκεν εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν εἰ μὴ ὁ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καταβάς, ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου and καθὼς Μωϋσῆς ὑψωσεν τὸν ὄφιν ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, οὕτως ὑψωθῆναι δεῖ τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου. Cf. Carson, 1991: 185-208; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5.

⁷⁵⁰ Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 394; cf. Bertram, 1972: 8: 610-1; Hanhart, 1970: 22-46) observes that, “The ascent of the Son of Man to heaven, the return of the Son to the Father (cf. 13:1; 16:28; 20:17) begins with his ‘exaltation’ on the Cross, where its power to save believers is disclosed”.

⁷⁵¹ Stibbe (1993: 58) says further that, “Three times Isaac is called Abraham’s son, his only son (Gen 22:2, 12, 16). In the prologue of John’s story, and here in 3:16-21, Jesus is portrayed as God’s Son, his only Son (μονογενῆ)”. Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Moloney,

way of dualistic terms such as salvation versus condemnation, believing versus unbelieving versus darkness, and those who do what is true versus all who do evil (cf. Howard, 1952: 13; Bartholomä, 2010: 91-3).⁷⁵² As a clarification of the dialogue section in vv. 1-10, the monologue section further deciphers about the basis for the “being born from above” experience, i.e., God’s sacrificial love through Jesus (cf. Kynes, 1992: 575; Namitha, 2000: 122). The content of the dialogue leading to monologue is established by way of connecting the experience of “new birth” with other major Johannine themes, like God’s love for the world through Jesus, the requirement of believing in God’s τὸν υἱὸν τὸν μονογενῆ, and attainment of eternal life in dualistic terms.

As usual in John, the form of the dialogue can be better understood on the basis of the dynamics of the utterance-forms.⁷⁵³ Verse 1 follows a story-telling format, but v. 2 employs the dramatic technique of introducing the characters through the utterance units.⁷⁵⁴ Resseguie (2005: 245; cf. Hanhart, 1970: 22-46; Ashton, 1991: 374-7) is of the opinion that “The structure of the dialogue can be divided into three sections that are based on Nicodemus’ three speeches in 3:2, 4 and 9, and Jesus’ responses. The structure is thus: *first*, verses 1-3; *second*, verses 4-8; and *third*, verses 9-21”.⁷⁵⁵ He (2005: 245) further comments that, “The entire section is held together by an *inclusio* that signals one of Nicodemus’ defining traits: 3:2: [Nicodemus] came to Jesus *by night*; 3:19: *the light* is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness”.⁷⁵⁶ The first half of the pericope (vv. 1-10) is set in the form of a *dialogue*, the last half (vv. 11-18) in the form of a *monologue*. The *dialogue leading to monologue* works as a model of communication

1998: 88-103; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94.

⁷⁵² Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 80) consider Jesus’ conversation with Nicodemus as a signal of the opposition between believers who have new life and unbelievers who do not. See Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Moloney, 1998: 88-103; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Stibbe, 1993: 53-9; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Blomberg, 2000: 122-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 43-52; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32.

⁷⁵³ According to Brown (1966: 135), “The Nicodemus scene is our first introduction to the Johannine discourse, the first oral exposition in John of the revelation brought by Jesus, and in capsule form it gives the principal thrust of that revelation”. Cf. Keener, 2003: 533-74; Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52.

⁷⁵⁴ Bernard (1929: 1: 100) opines that, “Some points in the narrative of 3:1-15 would suggest that the incident recorded did not happen (as the traditional text gives it) at the beginning of the ministry of Jesus . . . at v. 2, Nicodemus came to Jesus made of σιμεὼν at Jerusalem which had attracted the attention of Nicodemus; but we have already noted on v. 1 that no σιμεὼν in that city has yet been recorded”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Brown, 1966: 129-30; Milne, 1993: 74-80.

⁷⁵⁵ Moloney (1998: 90) is of the opinion that, “Verses 11-12 form a ‘bridge passage’ that both concludes vv. 1-10 and opens vv. 11-18. At best Nicodemus remains in the background, listening to Jesus’ brief discourse (vv. 11-12) which addresses the reader, and comments authoritatively upon the encounter between Jesus and Nicodemus”. Cf. Brown, 1966: 135-49; Thettayil, 2007: 10; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Moloney, 1998: 90; Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52.

⁷⁵⁶ Kermode (1987: 450; cf. De Jonge, 1977: 29; Ashton, 1994: 174; Culpepper, 1983: 134-6) says that, “The scene is set under the cover of which Nicodemus arrives to question the light (= life = the Word) is the uncomprehending darkness of 1:5 as well as the darkness of those who mistake the signs”. Kanagaraj (2005: 130) also has the same opinion. “The dialogue, which began with a reference to the coming of Nicodemus at night (v. 2), ends with a reference to the necessity for all to come to the Light”. Cf. Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Brown, 1966: 136-7; Moloney, 1998: 90.

dialogue proper (dramatic dialogue; cf. Dodd, 1960: 303; Vellanickal, 1977: 163-213)⁷⁵⁷ and *narratorial dialogue* (the narrator with the reader) are clubbed together.⁷⁵⁸

Utterance	Form	Content
Nicodemus	'We know' statement, acknowledgement, acceptance of facts	Jesus is a teacher who has come from God; No one can do the signs that he does apart from the presence of God
Jesus	Veracity statement, double meaning	No one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above
Nicodemus	Questions derived out of misunderstanding	How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?
Jesus	Veracity statement, antithetical parallelism, warning, dualism, command, metaphor	In order to enter the kingdom of God, one has to be born of water and spirit; there is distinction between 'those who born of flesh' and 'those who born of spirit'; Nicodemus must be born from above; those who born of the spirit are like a wind that blows where it chooses, but no one hear the sound of it
Nicodemus	Surprised question, misunderstanding	How can these things be?
Jesus	Counter question, irony	Nicodemus is a teacher of Israel and yet he does not understand what Jesus says; veracity statement and a monologue mostly in dualistic terms

Table 17: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 3:1-10

The dialogue leading to monologue plots an extended structural frame as follows:⁷⁵⁹ *first*, the setting of the story (vv. 1-2a); *second*, the exclamatory utterance of Nicodemus about Jesus (vv. 2b-c); *third*, the first veracity statement of Jesus (v. 3); *fourth*, a pair of questions by Nicodemus (v. 4); *fifth*, the second veracity statement(s) of Jesus (vv. 5-8); *sixth*, the question of Nicodemus (v. 9); *seventh*, Jesus' counter question (v. 10); and *eighth*, a monologue (vv. 10-21; cf. Dodd, 1960: 303-8; Stibbe, 1993: 53-4).⁷⁶⁰ The monologue section can be mainly divided as: *first*, a

⁷⁵⁷ Stibbe (1993: 55) says that, "... in John 3:1-21 the narrator depicts the first of a number of dramatic encounters between Religion (represented here by Nicodemus of the Pharisees) and Revelation (Jesus)". Painter (1993: 195-6) says that, "While Nicodemus is a character peculiar to John, aspects of his story find echoes in the synoptics. His *quest* (2:23-3:15) finds its closest parallel in the quest of 'the rich young ruler' (Mark 10:17-22 = Matthew 19:16-22 = Luke 18:18-23). While the quest of the rich young ruler failed, the quest of Nicodemus is left open, to be fulfilled in later episodes in the gospel".

⁷⁵⁸ The story is told not merely from the point of view of the interlocutors, but from the point of view of the narrator as he is the one who presents the facts before the readers. Jesus and Nicodemus are reconstructions of the narrator in his own terms. The narrator's role is also vivid as a commentator in vv. 3a, 4a, 5a, 9a, and 10a. The narrator is the one who presents the way characters talk, act, and behave within the episode. See Talbert, 1992: 100.

⁷⁵⁹ Cf. Brown, 1966: 129-49; Moloney, 1998: 90; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Painter, 1993: 195-9.

⁷⁶⁰ Ashton (1991: 374) says that, "Most of the difficulties belong to this section, and there is no agreement about where the natural break or breaks, if there are any, should be located. The first eight verses follow on without interruption,

counter question (v. 10); *second*, a veracity discourse (vv. 11-15); *third*, punch line of the gospel (v. 16); and *fourth*, a dualistic monologue (vv. 17-21; cf. Hanhart, 1970: 22-46; S 1998: 146-8).⁷⁶¹ The characters of the story exchange their ideas or utterances by way of n utterance-forms (see Table 17).⁷⁶² The dialogue has a well-structured syntactics that develop "A to B, B to A, A to B, B to A, A to B, B to A" format (cf. Bailey and Vander Broek, 1994; Witherington, 1995: 92-3).⁷⁶³ This is a circular way of communication as Charles Osgood Wilbur Schramm suggested, in which "both the sender and the receiver were involved in er and decoding".⁷⁶⁴ According to Resseguie (2005: 246; cf. Pryor, 1992: 20), "The narrator d a typical *U-shaped plot*: Nicodemus descends into darkness at the beginning, but his en with the light marks a reversal (a periphery) that is realised in his later appearances". cohesive description of the story by means of a dialogue leading to monologue delineates narrative syntactic of the story-teller (cf. Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 21-3; Bartholomä, 2010:

In v. 11, Jesus' monologue begins and that includes the expression οἶδαμεν in order to highlight Nicodemus' unknowing nature (cf. Duke, 1985: 172; Kysar, 1984: 33).⁷⁶⁶ Resseguie (200

and the concluding verses, 16-21, seem to fit together. But what of what lies between? Breaks have been seen after vv. 8, 9, 10, 12, and 13".

⁷⁶¹ Carson (1991: 203; cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 103) says that, "In two passages in this gospel, both in this chapter 21 and 3:31-36), the words of a speaker (Jesus and John the Baptist respectively) are succeeded by the explanatory reflections of the Evangelist. Because the ancient texts did not use quotation marks or other orthographic equivalents, the exact point of transition is disputed".

⁷⁶² Here Nicodemus uses forms like 'we know' statement, acknowledgement, acceptance of facts, questions/answers from misunderstanding, surprised question. On the other hand, Jesus uses veracity statements, double antithetical parallelism, warning, dualism, metaphor, counter question, and irony (see Table 17).

⁷⁶³ According to Louw (1986: 10; cf. Bailey and Vander Broek, 1992: 174; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 111, 199) investigation of the syntax of discourse sections in John reveals that the Greek phrases typically tend to lengthen as specific discourse unfolds. Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 174) explain further that, "This observation fits what has already been noted; that is, that in John the discourse of Jesus is noticeably stretched from short to far more and elaborated segments of speech". Elam (1980: 182-4) sees 'proairetic (action) coherence', 'referential coherence', 'discourse coherence', 'logical coherence', 'rhetorical and stylistic coherence', and 'semantic coherence' as part of 'textual coherence'. Herman (1995: 78; cf. Levinson, 1983: 296) states that, "Central to Conversation Analysis is the concept of *turn-taking* which organizes the distribution and flow of speech between the two poles of interaction thereby keeping speech, generally, continuous. Turn-taking has been described as a process in which 'one participant A talks, stops; another, B, starts, talks, stops; and so we obtain an A-B-A-B-A-B discussion of talk among participants'".

⁷⁶⁴ Cf. Schramm, 1964; cf. Kumar, 2003: 19; Raja and Prabhakar, 2006/2008: 168-9; Powell, 1990: 8-9. Kuroda (1991: 19; cf. Raja and Prabhakar, 2006/2008: 168-9) defines that, "In a communication model he developed with Osgood, Schramm suggested that communication was circular in nature, where both the sender and the receiver were involved in encoding and decoding, and were equal partners in the exchange". In the dialogue section (i.e., vv. 11-21), both Jesus and Nicodemus are involved in the encoding and decoding activities of communication.

⁷⁶⁵ Painter (1993: 197) is of the opinion that, "Nicodemus is portrayed as one of those who believed on the signs (2:23; 3:2), such a man as Jesus knows. His quest is expressed in his *coming* to Jesus who interpreted his quest as a quest for the kingdom of God". See Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Bennema, 2005: 44-9.

⁷⁶⁶ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 133) says that, "Beginning with v. 11 the 'dialogue' changes into a monologue". (1998: 100; cf. Brown, 1996: 1: 149; Painter, 2011: 115; Morris, 1995: 196-7) states that, "There is uncertainty among scholars over the speaker of this discourse. The interpretation takes it to be Jesus". Cf. Carson, 1991: 203; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32.

cf. Smalley, 1998: 146-8; Brown, 1966: 1: 136-7) says that, “While Nicodemus’ speech is bewildered (‘How can?’ in 3:4a and 9, ‘can one?’ in 3:4b), Jesus’ speech is marked by solemn assertions: ‘Very truly, I tell you’ (3:3, 5, 11). While Nicodemus’ speech progressively withers, Jesus’ discourse progressively expands While Nicodemus fades into the background, Jesus moves to the foreground”.⁷⁶⁷ When the dialogue develops Jesus’ talk is increasing and Nicodemus’ speech decreases. This talk development provides the dialogue a specific format as follows (see Diagram 14).

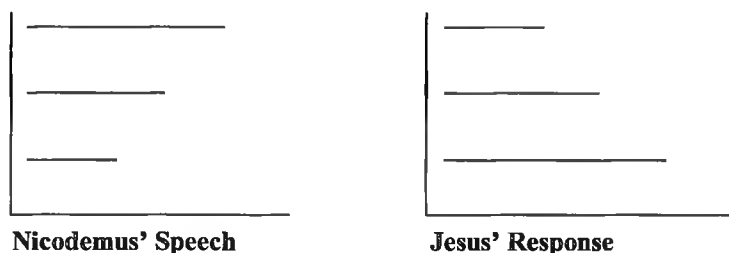


Diagram 14: The length of the talk units of Nicodemus and Jesus

In Jesus’ response, he does not answer Nicodemus’ concern plainly but instead uses the ambiguous word *ἄνωθεν* in order to describe about how one can enter the kingdom of God.⁷⁶⁸ Being born *ἄνωθεν* can mean ‘from above’ or ‘again’ and John likely has a *double meaning* in the Greek (cf. Duke, 1985: 144; Van der Watt, 2005: 472).⁷⁶⁹ Quast (1991/1996: 25; cf. Keener, 2003: 546-52; Sadananda, 2004: 219-21) is of the opinion that “The language of rebirth in the interchange between Nicodemus and Jesus is typically rich in double-meaning and symbolism”. The usages of Jesus, like γεννηθῇ ἄνωθεν, βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ and γεννηθῇ ἐξ ὕδατος καὶ πνεύματος, and Nicodemus’ *misunderstanding* of them all in the episode vividly communicate the conflicting views of the interlocutors (cf. Coloe, 2001: 6; Duke, 1985: 144-5).⁷⁷⁰ Brown (1966: 139; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 245) says that, “Nicodemus misunderstands what Jesus has said about begetting from above and thinks of coming forth from the womb again”. Nicodemus’ *misunderstanding* leads Jesus to explain his point slightly differently (vv. 4-8; cf. Keener, 2003: 537-9, 545-6; Duke,

⁷⁶⁷ Resseguie (2001: 121; cf. Koester, 1995: 45) says that, “In 3:2, he [Nicodemus] speaks twenty-four words; in 3:4, eighteen words; and in 3:9—his final speech—only four words”. Also see Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Painter, 1993: 195-9.

⁷⁶⁸ Lindars (1972: 151; cf. Vellanickal, 1977: 172-4; Bartholomä, 2010: 80-1) states that, “. . . the idea of rebirth is certainly present whichever way we translate *anōthen*, because it is implied by the whole context”. Cf. Carson, 1991: 185-208; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Thielman, 1991: 170; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Milne, 1993: 74-6.

⁷⁶⁹ Kermode (1987: 450) says that, “He [Nicodemus] enters from the night, as later Judas will go out into it; and he is told that the knowledge which belongs to generation, genesis, flesh, becoming, is irrelevant to the being of eternal life”. Cf. Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Blomberg, 2001: 92; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Brown, 1966: cxxxvf, 130-1.

⁷⁷⁰ Lindars (1972: 151; cf. De Jonge, 1970-1971: 337-59; Vellanickal, 1977: 172-4) says that, “The misunderstanding is that Nicodemus supposes that this fresh birth is the same as physical birth . . . a closer look at the context clinches the argument that John in fact intended ‘from above’”.

1985: 144-5).⁷⁷¹ The usage of a *double meaning-misunderstanding-clarification format* is efficacious within the narratorial framework of the episode (cf. Petersen, 1993: 42-4; Painter, 2011: 112-3).⁷⁷² Moreover, the setting and characterisation add flavour to the utterance dynamics of the story. Duke (1985: 108, 185-6; cf. Witherington, 1995: 92-3; Aaron, 2001: 1) says that “John’s constant play with light and darkness provides some instances of ironic imagery. An example is 3:1-2. The irony stems from the contrast to Nicodemus’ credentials in 3:1”. This setting and the movements of the characters overshadow the utterance units of the episode.⁷⁷³

Nicodemus’ misunderstanding (v. 4) and the perplexity of his final question (v. 9) are decided in order to place him opposite to Jesus in the dialogue proper (cf. Painter, 2011: 112-3; Bruce, 1981: 81-6).⁷⁷⁴ Two of Jesus’ initial responses follow parallel linguistic and stylistic tones (v. 3; cf. Painter, 2011: 112-3). The stylistic features like Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν and λέγω σοι formulas (cf. Lincoln, 2000: 66; Culpepper, 2001: 253-62), *Kingdom-focused sayings* (vv. 3, 5),⁷⁷⁵ *double entendre* (vv. 3, 7; cf. Duke, 1985: 144-5; Resseguie, 2005: 245),⁷⁷⁶ *antithetical parallelism* (v. 6; cf. Greenstein, 1983: 144-5), *contrast* (v. 8), *simile* (v. 8; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 245), and *counter questions* (Nicodemus’ questions in vv. 4, 9 and Jesus’ responsive question in v. 10) are all foregrounding elements within the dialogical framework (cf. Petersen, 1993: 41-5; see Diagram 15).⁷⁷⁷

⁷⁷¹ Keener (2003: 533) says that, “Several of John’s narratives involve the pattern of sign, misunderstanding, and response”. Painter (1993: 197) says that, “Misunderstanding should not be understood as a problem because by means of the misunderstanding of characters in the story Jesus clarifies his position”. Duke (1985: 108) says that, “Dialogue partners can misunderstand metaphors (2:19-21; 4:10-15, 31-34; 6:32-35, 51-53; 10:1-10, 41-42) or other kinds of cryptic or ambiguous expression (7:33-36; 8:21-22, 31-33; 9:1-4, 13-17; 11:23-25; 13:36-38; 14:4-6, 7-9; 16:16-19)”. Cf. Moloney, 1998: 92-4; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Painter, 2005: 45; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Blomberg, 2001: 93; Milne, 1993: 74-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Petersen, 1993: 195-9.

⁷⁷² Neyrey (2007: 79; cf. Coloe, 2001: 6; Vellanickal, 1977: 172-4) says that, “This literary pattern weaves together the setting of 3:1-15 and occurs often in the gospel. Because it, too, deals with knowledge and understanding, it confirms the dynamics of topic statement and development just seen. In essence, Jesus makes a *statement*, which is *misunderstood*, and this prompts him to *speak further*”.

⁷⁷³ The narrator shapes the story by way of interlocking both the narratives and the utterance units and this dynamism provides ample dramatic flavour to the episodic development.

⁷⁷⁴ Talbert (1992: 98) reports that, “A parallel to what is going on in John 3 may be found in the *Corpus Hermeticum* tractate 13, a dialogue where Hermes Trismegistos tells his disciple Tat the prerequisite for a revelation of the divine”. See Moloney, 1998: 92-4; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32.

⁷⁷⁵ John 3:1-21 plays an important role in the entire gospel message as it presents the two instances of the *βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ* and relates it with the central teachings of Christianity. Maniparampil (2004: 209-10) says that, “‘Kingdom of God’ is the revelation of God and the revolution of love. To believe in the kingdom is to believe in revelation and revolution”. For more details about *βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ* in John, refer to Caragounis, 1992: 100-101; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Bennema, 2004: 9; Moloney, 1998: 90-103.

⁷⁷⁶ Painter (2011: 114; cf. Vellanickal, 1977: 172-4; Thielman, 1991: 170) says that, “John 3:8 continues the *double entendre* of 3:3 and adds a second one. In a parable-like comparison, Jesus compares the Spirit with the wind—an actual play on words in Greek since *pneuma* means either wind or spirit. Neither the physical wind nor the Spirit can be pinned down in terms of source or destination. The same applies to those ‘born of the Spirit’”.

⁷⁷⁷ See more details about aesthetics and narrative in Chatman, 1978: 27. Cf. Keener, 2003: 533-74; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Milne, 1993: 74-80.

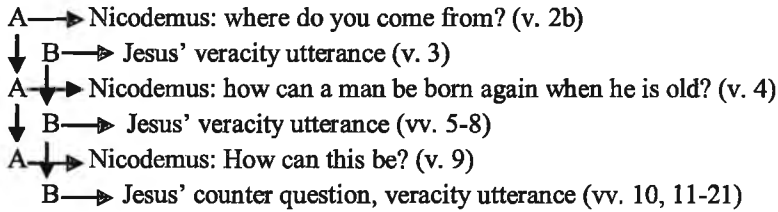


Diagram 15: The development of the dialogue between Nicodemus and Jesus

Towards the end of the dialogue, the narrator reveals the innermost perplexity of Nicodemus through the very question, Πῶς δύναται ταῦτα γενέσθαι (v. 9). As a response to his question, Jesus raises a *counter question* in the form of an *implicit contrast* (i.e., Σὺ εἰ ὁ διδάσκαλος τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ καὶ ταῦτα οὐ γινώσκεις; v. 10)⁷⁷⁸ that is *rhetorical* in character (cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 76-7).⁷⁷⁹ The narrator of the story uses all the above mentioned devices along with *parody*⁷⁸⁰ in order to stabilise the dialogue between Nicodemus' 'earthly' and Jesus' 'spiritual' concerns (cf. Smith, 1999: 97; Brodie, 1993: 196-9).⁷⁸¹

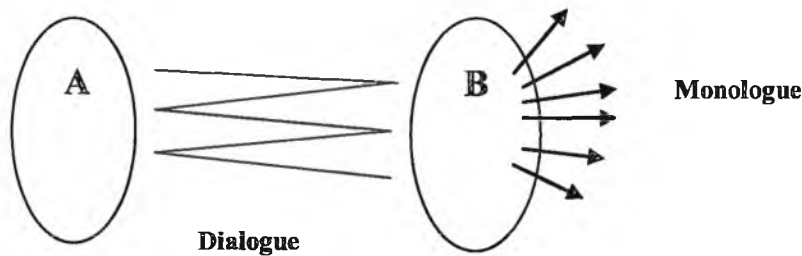


Diagram 16: Plot development from a dialogue to a monologue

The main thrust of the monologue can be summarised around dualistic concepts like the 'from above' and the 'from below' controversy, Moses and Jesus aspects, God's love and human sin concepts,⁷⁸² condemnation-eternal life teachings, and the darkness-light conflicts.⁷⁸³ The feature of

⁷⁷⁸ Smith (1999: 96) says that, "... his question is again 'natural' and understandable (v. 9). Nevertheless, Jesus sharply chides him (v. 10). Nicodemus, who at the beginning of the conversation called Jesus 'Rabbi' and a teacher come from God is now called the teacher of Israel, as Jesus feigns astonishment at his ignorance". Cf. Brown, 1966: 131; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Milne, 1993: 74-80.

⁷⁷⁹ A *rhetorical question* is a statement in the form of a question that does not expect a reply but is stated to achieve greater persuasive power than a direct statement. The answer to a rhetorical question is usually obvious and is the only one available. Namitha (2000: 122) has the view that, "Jesus was dealing with him very skilfully and patiently, and thereby taking him beyond his normal understandings". Cf. Resseguie, 2005: 60-1.

⁷⁸⁰ *Parody* is a piece of writing, music, and acting that deliberately copies the style of somebody/something in order to be amusing; something that is such a bad or unfair example of something that it seems ridiculous. Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 57. Here Nicodemus' use of 'Rabbi' or 'teacher' in order to address Jesus is copied by Jesus later in order to make a satirical statement in v. 10.

⁷⁸¹ See Carson, 1991: 185-208; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Brown, 1966: 129-49.

⁷⁸² While God's love is delineated explicitly within the monologue, human sin and unbelief are mentioned implicitly.

⁷⁸³ Nicholson (1980: 21; cf. Beets, 1995: 105; Lincoln, 2000: 20) says that, "The Descent-Ascent Schema says that Jesus is to be understood as the one who has come from above (3:13b, 31; 6:38; 8:23; 13:3; 16:28a) and who will return above (3:13a; 13:1-3; 16:5, 28b). While Jesus is 'below', he remains one with the Father who is the source of

cosmic dualism in which Jesus' knowledge "from above" remains paradoxical to Nicodemus' knowledge "from below" (cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 75-81; Painter, 2011: 115). Even there is repetition of words and phrases, which do not seem monotonous.⁷⁸⁴ Stylistic features "Amen, Amen formula" (v. 11), *synonymous parallelism* (v. 11), and *antithetical parallelism* (v. 18, 20-21) add more strength to the monologue here.⁷⁸⁵ Even in the monologue section, the text maintains interconnectedness between terms, characters, and ideologies. Also it is conspicuous that the *dialogic voice* remains as a thread throughout Jesus' talk.⁷⁸⁶

Nicodemus' first statement (v. 2a) with Jesus' interrogative statement (v. 10) makes a *character inclusion*, as both the interlocutors address each other "Teacher" (cf. Bonar, 1972: 16-8; Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 73-7). His usage of οἴδαμεν (meaning "we know"; v. 2) and Jesus' usage of οὐκ οἶδας (meaning "you do not know"; v. 8; also οὐ γινώσκεις in v. 10) decide the antithetical relationship of the characters.⁷⁸⁷ The question in v. 10 affirms the conflict between the two characters in the portrayal of Jewish *unknowingness* and Jesus' *all-knowing* nature (cf. Bonar, 1972: 16-8; Petersen, 1993: 41-5).⁷⁸⁸ One of the noticeable features in this episode is the narrative technique of *equilibrium*⁷⁸⁹ between the interlocutors in order to present the dialogic activity rhetorically. In this way, the characters are placed on a common ground by way of equilibrium, their parallel worldviews are presented adequately through a conversation (see Diagram 17).⁷⁹⁰

his words, his actions and his authority". See Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52.

⁷⁸⁴ Cf. Painter, 1993: 195-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Moloney, 1998: 93-5; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Guthrie, 1993: 335; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32.

⁷⁸⁵ Baldick (1990: 160; cf. Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 109-10) defines 'parallelism' as "the arrangement of constructed clauses, sentences, or verse lines in a pairing or other sequence suggesting some correspondence between them. The effect of parallelism is usually one of balanced arrangement achieved through repetition of syntactic forms". Cf. Keener, 2003: 533-74; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Brown, 1966: 131-5; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Painter, 1993: 195-9.

⁷⁸⁶ *Dialogic Voice* can be understood as the interactive, interconnected, and intertextual trend of characters, idioms, and terminologies etc. The *Dialogic Voice* has to be taken seriously when we deal with the non-dialogic (those are not proper) narratives.

⁷⁸⁷ Köstenberger (2004: 125) points out that, "In this rabbinic dialogue, Jesus clearly is the teacher, and Nicodemus is the student. In fact, from here on Nicodemus vanishes from sight, and the narrative drifts into a monologue, first by Jesus and then, almost imperceptibly, by the evangelist himself".

⁷⁸⁸ Keener (2003: 559) says that, "Nicodemus was a 'ruler' of Israel (3:1) and recognised Jesus as a teacher (3:2), but his own lack of understanding as a 'teacher of Israel', one who claimed to teach others, proves (3:10). Even if one takes Jesus' words 'Are you a teacher of Israel?' (3:10) as an expression of astonishment, they undoubtedly represent reproof as well".

⁷⁸⁹ *Equilibrium* can be understood as a narrative tactic used by the narrator in order to introduce the characters on a common ground. In this story, Jesus and Nicodemus stand as two teachers discussing from their own perspectives (cf. Tasker, 1960: 66-7; Tenney, 1994: 304-5).

⁷⁹⁰ Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Moloney, 1998: 90-103.

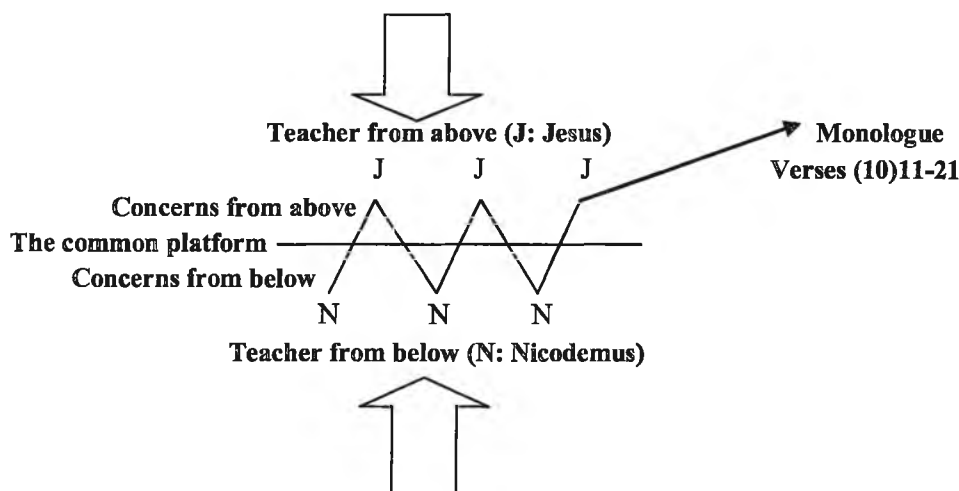


Diagram 17: The equilibrium of characters in John 3:1-21

The dialogue is between Jesus a teacher from above (who is *all-knowing*) and Nicodemus a teacher from below (who is *unknowing* and *misunderstanding*). The dialogue has several trends of forms: it can be a revelatory dialogue leading to a monologue⁷⁹¹ and, at the same time, a story that directs the interlocutors and readers from darkness to light, an A-to-B question and answer exchange, and a quest story.⁷⁹² The pedagogical or instructional nature of the episode is conspicuous through the *teacher to teacher dialogue* pattern and the resultant revelation (cf. Bonar, 1972: 16-8; Petersen, 1993: 42-4; see Diagram 17).⁷⁹³ All the literary dynamisms discussed above contribute toward the conflicting pedagogical views of the dialogue. Thus the form of pedagogical dialogue turned monologue is making its fullest sense by the help of all other literary and linguistic phenomena within the text.

The dialogue leading to monologue at John 3:1-21 has several functional characteristics.⁷⁹⁴ It is not merely introduced as a dialogue between the characters (i.e., between Jesus and Nicodemus) of the story; but a dialogue also between the narrator and the reader. The dialogue between the narrator and the reader takes place through the medium of the characters. It is an instructional or pedagogical dialogue as it maintains a *teacher to teacher* pattern (cf. Petersen, 1993: 42-4; Bonar,

⁷⁹¹ Quast (1991/1996: 24; cf. Bailey and Vander Broek, 1992: 172-3) is of the view that, "When Nicodemus comes to Jesus, he comes as one who, in spite of all his religious credentials, turns to Jesus for the saving revelation".

⁷⁹² Painter (1989: 25; cf. Tenney, 1994: 304-5; Tasker, 1960: 70-1) says that, "The incident with Nicodemus is a traditional quest story, 2:23-3:15. Nicodemus is portrayed as one of those who believed on the basis of signs (2:23; 3:2). He is such a man as Jesus knows (2:25; 3:1). The coming of Nicodemus to Jesus is expression of his quest which Jesus interpreted as a quest for the kingdom of God". The format of an *inclusio*, a *dialogue leading to monologue*, a *U-shaped plot*, and a *quest story* provides the readers a better understanding about the way this revelatory narrative progress (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 363-409; Gench, 2007: 19-28).

⁷⁹³ Morris (1995: 195-6; cf. Tasker, 1960: 66-7; Tenney, 1994: 304-5) says that, "'Israel's teacher' (more literally 'the teacher of Israel') points at the very least to preeminence as a teacher. The article ('the', not 'a' teacher) may indicate that Nicodemus held some official position, but if so we do not know what it was. But this leading Pharisee professed to know the things of God, and even to teach them to others".

⁷⁹⁴ For more details about the functional aspects of a text, refer to Aune, 1986: 87.

1972: 16-8), doctrinal and thematic as it introduces some of the prominent doctrinal issues, and intellectual and rhetorical as the interlocutors invite the reader to get involved in the narrative world.⁷⁹⁵ The conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus is introduced as one systematically arranged dialogue in John.⁷⁹⁶ A reader is brought to the point that the narrative in John 3:1-21 attempts to introduce a stylistic Jewish-Christian dialogue for the sake of pragmatic purposes (cf. Thielman, 1991: 179).⁷⁹⁷ There is an array of themes within the pericope,⁷⁹⁸ like creation (v. 2), darkness and light (v. 2; cf. v. 19), knowledge (v. 2; cf. vv. 8, 11), Jesus' origin (v. 2), signs (v. 2), the kingdom of God (vv. 3, 5), being born from above (vv. 3, 7-8), sight (v. 2), being born of water and spirit (vv. 5, 6, 8), spirit and flesh (vv. 5, 6, 8), witness (v. 11), descent and ascent (v. 13), lifting up (v. 14), God's love for the world (v. 16), life (vv. 15-17, 21), atonement (vv. 15-18; cf. Bonar, 1972: 16-20; Witherington, 1995: 95-106).⁷⁹⁹ The development of these themes (by way of dualistic terms) is helpful for the reader to understand the ideological conflict between the protagonist (Jesus) and his counterparts (the Jews; cf. Namitha, 2000: 121-2).⁸⁰⁰

This episode is a *dialogue leading to monologue* as the section maintains a dialogical form in v. 10 where it turns into a monologue (vv. 11-21).⁸⁰¹ According to Thielman (1991: 170)

⁷⁹⁵ Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 53-9; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Murray, 1987: 45-52; Newman and Nida, 1980: 74-94; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Dodd, 1960: 303-8; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Dodd, 1963: 328-34.

⁷⁹⁶ Cf. Brown, 1966: 129-49; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Moloney, 1998: 89-102; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32.

⁷⁹⁷ Here the dialogue is between Nicodemus, the Jewish leader, and Jesus, the leader of the newly emerging group.
⁷⁹⁸ Bartholomä (2010: 94; cf. Brodie, 1993: 196-202) says that, "... it is important to note that all key elements of Jesus' discourse in John 3 have a similar counterpart in Matthew, Mark, or Luke. The necessity of rebirth (John 3:3, 5) par. Matthew 18:3 and Mark 10:15), the importance of personal faith in Christ as a pre-condition for eternal life (John 3:14-15 par. Matthew 19:28 pars.), and the emphasis on Jesus as savior for every believer (John 3:16-18 par. Luke 19:10, Matthew 19:28 pars.) are noticeable parts of Jesus' synoptic teaching".

⁷⁹⁹ Abstract themes like 'love', 'know', 'believe', and 'saving'; dualistic concepts such as 'flesh and spirit', 'darkness', and 'true and evil'; and antithetical themes like 'from above' and 'from below', 'earthly things' and 'heavenly things', 'ascending' and 'descending', and 'condemning the world' and 'saving the world' establish the dialogue-turned-monologue as a sophisticated theological piece of writing. Christological titles like 'teacher from God', 'Son of Man', 'only Son' and 'Son of God' give a detailed picture of Jesus' personality. Activities of Jesus as 'teacher from God', 'performer of signs', 'one who descended from heaven' and 'ascended into heaven', 'one who will be lifted up', 'mediator between God and human beings', 'one who saves the world', 'one who delivers from condemnation', 'light of the world', and 'mission of Son of Man' expand the broader spectrum of divine identity. Dodd (1960: 308) says that, "... the discourse, starting from the idea of rebirth, as initiation into eternal life, becomes a kind of program of the whole work of Christ, setting forth briefly certain ideas which will come up for further discussion as the work proceeds: notably those of the 'elevation' of the Son of Man, of the love of God for the world and of light and judgment". Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 74-94; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Stibbe, 1993: 55-6; Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Carson, 1991: 185-208.

⁸⁰⁰ As Bowman rightly states, the communicator [i.e., Jesus] is deciphered as the message. He (1975: 11-12) says, "The communication is not the message, but the communicator is the message, and its universal content is the message". The dualistic conflict between 'light and darkness', between 'spirit and flesh', and ultimately between 'the world from above and the world from below' is introduced through the representation of Jesus and Nicodemus.

⁸⁰¹ Cf. Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Stibbe, 1993: 53-9; Dodd, 1960: 303-8; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Dodd, 1963: 328-34.

Johannine pattern is for “people come to Jesus with ‘earthly’ concerns, but Jesus answers them in ‘spiritual’ terms”.⁸⁰³ This conflict between ‘earthly’ and ‘spiritual’ within the story calls for a dialogue, a characteristic feature of Jesus’ conversation with Nicodemus. Resseguie (2005: 245-6; cf. Powell, 1990: 52; Ellis, 1984: 6-7)⁸⁰⁴ says that, “The narrator’s *characterisation* of Nicodemus relies on both showing and telling. Nicodemus’ speech, discourse patterns, and actions and what Jesus says to him are the primary methods of showing his characterisation”.⁸⁰⁵ In the dialogue proper section, there is a *fifty-fifty* sequence of communication between Jesus and Nicodemus; but in the latter part Jesus takes full control of the discussion.⁸⁰⁶ Nicodemus represents not only the Jews of his time but also those who believed in Jesus after seeing his signs (see v. 2; cf. 2:23-25). Jesus, however, represents the new community of believers.⁸⁰⁷ Jesus’ position as the protagonist is portrayed in dignified terms.⁸⁰⁸ The dialogue genre is used in order to make Jesus’ voice known and ultimately to reveal his identity. The reader comprehends the complex theological and christological aspects of the story in order to dialogue with her/his own contextual realities.⁸⁰⁹

⁸⁰² See Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Dodd, 1960: 303-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 74-94; Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Dodd, 1963: 328-34.

⁸⁰³ Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 88) say that, “. . . when John speaks of the world hating believers, or hating light and loving darkness, he is using the same language of attachment and disattachment, loyalty and disloyalty to his enlightened group. He is drawing the strongest possible contrast between his own group and all outsiders”.

⁸⁰⁴ Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Newman and Nida, 1980: 74-94; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Dodd, 1960: 303-8; Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Stibbe, 1993: 54-5; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Barrett, 1978: 202-19.

⁸⁰⁵ Resseguie (2005: 246) further comments that, “Nicodemus progressively develops as a character in each of his three appearances (i.e., 3:1-21; 7:50-52; and 19:35). Initially, the narrator tells us about Nicodemus, using a string of epithets that places him within Israel’s dominant culture: ‘Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews’ (3:1). He is identified as a man (‘now there was a *man*’, not translated in NRSV), then a Pharisee, and finally a ‘leader of the Jews’”. Cf. Painter, 1993: 195-9; Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Dodd, 1960: 303-8; Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Newman and Nida, 1980: 74-94.

⁸⁰⁶ Dodd (1960: 303) says that, “The transition from dialogue to monologue is characteristic of this writer’s manner”. Cf. Moloney, 1998: 89-102; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Brown, 1966: 129-49. Kanagaraj (2005: 116) opines that, “Although the dialogue takes place between two individuals, they speak as representatives of two communities, as the plural pronouns show (vv. 7, 11, 12)”. Cf. Milne, 1993: 74-80; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Moloney, 1998: 89-102.

⁸⁰⁷ The narrative deals multifarious levels of dialogues in a dynamic way: *first*, between the interlocutors within the story; *second*, the praxis-oriented heaven and earth dialogue; *third*, the narrator and the historical readers; and *fourth*, the narrative’s dialogue with the current readers (cf. Ricoeur, 1988: 171). Powell (1990: 14; cf. Chatman, 1975: 23; Lausberg, 1960/1998; Mitchell, 2006: 615-33; Sternberg, 1985: 282) defines ‘Rhetorical criticism’ as follows: “Within literary circles, rhetorical criticism is viewed as a pragmatic approach to literature that focuses on the means through which a work achieves a particular effect on its reader Rhetorical critics have sought to discover how literature accomplishes these things and why it has these particular effects”. See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Keener, 2003: 533-74; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Brown, 1966: 129-49; Milne, 1993: 74-80; Bennema, 2005: 44-9; Moloney, 1998: 90-103; Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32.

⁸⁰⁸ Resseguie (2005: 246) states that, “If John 3 were the only narrative about Nicodemus, he would remain a flat, static character, but the subsequent cameos suggest a dynamic or developing character who adopts a new point of view in his encounter with the divine”. See Newman and Nida, 1980: 74-94; Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Dodd, 1960: 303-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-52; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Dodd, 1963: 328-34.

⁸⁰⁹ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 176) state that, “. . . it is important for interpreters to recognise that the Johannine Jesus speaks in a manner quite different from that of the Jesus of the synoptics Realizing this fact, interpreters

Anderson (2008: 93) says that, "John's material developed dialogically, and it must be dialogically if its epistemological origin, developmental character, and rhetorical design are adequately understood". Anderson is correct in suggesting that it is not only a dialogue between the characters of the story but also a piece that encourages the reader to get involved in a dialogue with the text.⁸¹⁰

Along with the movement of the characters and the development of the themes, the narrator employs literary devices in order to actualise rhetorical impact upon the reader (cf. Courtineau, 1979; cf. Chatman, 1978: 151). The use of *double meaning-misunderstanding-clarification* (cf. Witherington, 1995: 103; Hamid-Khani, 2000: 33-61)⁸¹¹ and the narrative technique of *equilibrium* help the narrator to reveal the perspectival conflict (cf. Chatman, 1978: 48; Hamid-Khani, 2000: 33-61) and the characterisation of Jesus and Nicodemus. Gensch (2007: 24-5) is of the opinion that, "... Nicodemus is a character who may well evoke our sympathy, even empathy, as we too struggle to comprehend an enigmatic Jesus. He serves as a reminder that many people attracted to Jesus, then and now, do not immediately understand him".⁸¹² In this process, the thematic and doctrinal aspects (cf. Gensch, 2007: 26-8) give force for the pragmatic development of the dialogue (cf. Tan, 1993: 50-89). The narrator of the story presents an 'everyday (real-life) dialogue' genre in dramatic terms (cf. Tan, 1993: 28).⁸¹³ The circular way of communication, a way of both 'encoding' and 'decoding', takes place not only within the narratorial world but also between the narrator of the story and the reader.⁸¹⁴ While the narrator shares the story with the ever-present reader, the reader has all the rights to comprehend and respond to the story to seek further clarification. Through all these means, the narrator uses the literary technique of defamiliarisation of the story in order to present it afresh before the reader (cf. Resseguie, 2007: 27-8). Nicodemus' lack of belief and lack of knowledge necessitates a dialogue with the narrative context.⁸¹⁵ This is also true with all the unbelieving and unknowing readers. The use of real-life language (cf. Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-35; Fairclough, 1992: 12-36) evokes diverse responses among the readers. The reader is given a choice either to accept or to reject the life-giving

should approach Johannine discourse and narration as embodying rich theological and Christological meaning resulting from concrete struggles in the life of the Johannine community". Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 117-32; Courtineau, 1966: 129-49; Moloney, 1998: 89-102; Milne, 1993: 74-80.

⁸¹⁰ The dialogue establishes a strong theological foundation, recreates the personality of Jesus as a unique figure, resolves the conflicts through discourses, and generates alacrity among the readers.

⁸¹¹ Stibbe (1994b: 17) explains that, "... Jesus proves evasive in his language. Now he adds *double entendre* of the *marshal* or riddle. He says, 'You must be born *anōthen*—again or from above' (3:3). 'The *pneuma* (which is both 'wind' and 'spirit') blows wherever it pleases'. No wonder Nicodemus finds Jesus hard to understand!"

⁸¹² Witherington (1995: 92) says that, "What is striking about the characterisation of Nicodemus is that though he actually appears in only seventeen verses in this gospel, and speaks only sixty-three words, we feel we know him rather well, and apparently the audience is meant to develop a certain sense of kinship or identity with him".

⁸¹³ Elam (1980: 180-282; cf. Tan, 1993: 28-9) finds differences between real-life dialogue and drama dialogue. Drama dialogue is characterised by: syntactic orderliness, informational intensity, illocutionary purity, and systematic floor-appointment control.

⁸¹⁴ Cf. Schramm, 1964; Kumar, 2003: 19; Raja and Prabhakar, 2006/2008: 168-9; Powell, 1990: 8-9.

⁸¹⁵ Cf. Reinhartz, 1994: 571; Kysar, 1984: 33; Brant, 2004: 164.

the world (v. 19).⁸¹⁶ Through all these means, the story is presented performatively (cf. Elam, 1980: 213-20; Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67).⁸¹⁷ Thus in John 3:1-21, the central theme of “new life” is discussed by way of a pedagogical dialogue turned monologue and that reveals Jesus’ identity yet another level.

3.3. Meso-Analysis

The content of the *dialogue leading to monologue* is centered on the theme of “new birth” and other attached themes like God’s love for the world through Jesus, the requirement of believing in God’s only begotten son, and the attainment of eternal life (cf. Kermode, 1987: 450; Van Tilborg, 1993: 47-53).⁸¹⁸ In order to present the theme persuasively, the narrator uses a *teacher to teacher* (or A to B and B to A) dialogical format (see Table 19; cf. Moloney, 1998: 91-4; Köstenberger, 2004: 117). The episode reveals the identity of Jesus yet another time and invites the reader toward the new experience in relation to him. Thus the content, form, and function of the dialogue together achieve the goal of the narrative (cf. Aune, 1986: 65-91). While discussing about the Platonic dialogues, Press (2007: 5; cf. Tan, 1993: 28; Hess-Lüttich, 1985: 199-214) states that, “The literary and dramatic aspects are taken to be the ‘form’, and this is to be strictly separable from the arguments, which are the ‘content’”. In 3:1-21, the narrator employs the form of a pedagogical dialogue turned monologue in order to introduce the theme of “new birth”. Different from the dialogue turned monologue section in 1:19-34, where the dialogue and the subsequent monologue happen within a span of two days, in 3:1-21 the dialogue and monologue are sequential and without a break. The episode (3:1-21) is placed between the short episodes at 2:13-22 and 3:22-30 (see Diagram 18). Carson (1991: 185)⁸¹⁹ is of the opinion that, “The one who ‘knew all men’, who ‘did not need man’s testimony about man’ (2:24-25), now enters into a number of conversations in which he instantly gets to the hearts of individuals with highly diverse backgrounds and needs—Nicodemus (3:1-15), the Samaritan woman (4:1-26), the Gentile official (4:43-53), the man at the pool of Bethesda (5:1-15), and more”.⁸²⁰ This sequential feature of

⁸¹⁶ See Reinhartz, 1994: 571-2; Rensberger, 1988: 113-6; Reinhartz, 2001: 26.

⁸¹⁷ Several studies have been devoted to the specific question of language and its roles in the drama. One of the earliest and most important, after the founding work of Veltrusky (1941, 1942) and Honzl (1943), is Ingarden (1958), a phenomenological view of linguistic functions, concerned with the ontological, proairetic and expressive status of the dialogue. Cf. Elam, 1980: 218.

⁸¹⁸ Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 367) says that, “According to the usage of ἀνωθεν elsewhere in John (3:31; 19:11, 23), and his doctrine of ‘birth from God’ (1:13; 1 John 2:29; 3:9; 4:7; 5:1), the only justifiable translation is ‘from above’”.

⁸¹⁹ Davies (1992: 26) states, “Most of the dialogues present only two interlocutors. Sometimes these are individuals, like Jesus and Nicodemus (3:1-15), or Philip and Nathanael (1:45-46), or Mary and Martha (11:28). Sometimes one or both of the interlocutors is represented by a group, like the brothers of Jesus (7:3), the Pharisees (8:13), the ‘Jews’ (8:48), the disciples (9:2) or groups within the crowd (7:11-13)”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-56; Painter, 1993: 195-9.

⁸²⁰ Bennema (2009: 79) opines that, “The dialogue between Nicodemus and Jesus only starts at 3:2, but 2:23-3:1 sets the stage”. Beasley-Murray (1987: 45-6) says that, “Just as 2:1 harks back to the events of chap. 1 yet commences a new division of the gospel, so 2:23-25 is linked with the setting of the previous episode yet belongs essentially with chap. 3, since it provides a context for the Nicodemus narrative and an important clue to its understanding”. Cf.

narratives and dialogues sets an *analeptic* and *proleptic* background for the Nicodemus s 3:1-21.⁸²¹ The thematic development, conceptual framework of light and darkness, and the *to teacher* pattern convince the reader about the conflicting and pedagogical framework episode. The literary devices like *double meaning-misunderstanding-clarification*⁸²² and others used in order to rhetoricise the dialogue (see the micro-analysis; cf. Lausberg, 1998).⁸²³ The contrasting characterisation of Jesus and Nicodemus within the narrative framework helps the reader to identify the nature of the dialogue (see Table 18).⁸²⁴

Though the narratives are minimally used within the episode (i.e., vv. 1-2a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 9a, 10a), the narrator's control over the dialogue is obvious.⁸²⁵ The dialogue leading to monologue contributes to the narratorial advancement and narrator-reader interactions by way of its thematic development, characterial movement, and the literary devices within the story (cf. Lee, 1994: 51; Funk, 1988: 2-3). Jesus and Nicodemus are representing two different worldviews engaged in a *teacher to teacher* dialogue and their views are antithetical in substance (cf. Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Michaels, 1984/1989: 55-62). The questions of Nicodemus the 'from below' (vv. 2b, 4b, 9b) and the veracity utterances of Jesus the teacher 'from above' (vv. 5b-8, 10b-21) form a pedagogical dialogue (see Table 19; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 100; Jonge, 1977: 29).⁸²⁶ The three questions of Nicodemus and the subsequent answers of Jesus are the important elements to understand the worldviews 'from below' and 'from above' (cf. Vellema, 1977: 169-201; Köstenberger, 2004: 120-6). From all these, the reader is invited to see that the dialogue is, in essence, one between the 'upward world' and the 'downward world' (see Table 18).

Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-56; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Newman and Nida, 1980: 91-5; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Dodd, 1963: 328-34.

⁸²¹ Stibbe (1993: 54) states that, "The entire piece is based on a contrast between Jesus and Nicodemus. Nicodemus is depicted as 'a man' (ἄνθρωπος) in v. 1, while Jesus, at the very end of the dialogue, describes himself twice as 'the Son of Man' (τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου). Here 'a man' comes face to face with *the* Heavenly Man. The archetype of wisdom and pedagogy encounters the personification of heaven's Truth". Cf. Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Painter, 1993: 195-9.

⁸²² Davies (1992: 26) says that, "There are . . . genuine disagreements and misunderstandings in the Johannine dialogues sometimes convey a sense of talking at cross purposes, as Jesus' discussion with Nicodemus illustrates (3:1-15). Nicodemus fails to grasp the significance of Jesus' statements about being born again or being from above".

⁸²³ Ricoeur (1984/1985/1988: 3: 171; cf. Stockhammer, 1963: 224) says that, ". . . the meaning of a literary work is upon the dialogical (dialogisch) relation established between the work and its public in each age". Cf. Lee, 1994: 51; Thatcher, 2001: 269-71; Black, 2001: 12; Botha, 1991: 71-87; Garver, 1994: 52-75.

⁸²⁴ Bennema (2009: 78; cf. Lee, 1994: 48-51; Smith, 1999: 94) says that, "The Greek διδάσκαλος ('teacher') is equivalent to the Hebrew *rabbi* (cf. 1:38; 3:2). In addition, the explicit use of the Greek Σὺ ('you') in 3:4 emphasizes—Nicodemus is *the* teacher or 'top theologian' of Israel". Carson (1991: 198) says that, "There is a report of Nicodemus' replies: dialogue becomes monologue, which in turn becomes a paragraph of reflective monologue". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Painter, 1993: 195-9.

⁸²⁵ A reader presupposes that all the stories within the gospel are contributions of the narrator. The narrator is the one who introduces the characters and their utterances to the reader.

⁸²⁶ Stibbe (1993: 53) says that, "Certain structural features should be noted in 3:1-21. In the arrangement of 3:1-21, the author once again has revealed a predilection for tripartite structure. These verses are arranged artistically around three questions and three answers".

cf. Van Tilborg, 1993: 47-53; Smith, 1999: 100-2).⁸²⁷ But the narratorial technique of *equilibrium* places both the characters on a common platform (see Diagram 17).

Nicodemus	Jesus
One who is coming during night time, Man, Pharisee, Leader of the Jews, Not born from above, Not being born of water and spirit, <i>Teacher of Israel</i> , One who does not believe	Light of the world, Rabbi, <i>Teacher who has come from God</i> , Sign-performer under the presence of God, One whom people must believe, One who descends and ascends, Son of Man, Son of God, One who is to be lifted up, One who gives eternal life, Only begotten Son of God, Savior, Judge

Table 18: Characterisation of Nicodemus and Jesus

The narrator presents Jesus and Nicodemus as characters of good and evil; hence, symbolically, the dialogue can be considered as one of *good and evil*. Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 81) point out that, “Nicodemus functions as a kind of foil who offers Jesus the opportunity for an explanatory monologue”.⁸²⁸ Not only the interlocutors, but also the narrator gets involved in the process of the discourse.⁸²⁹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 54; cf. Vellanickal, 1977: 169-201) states that, “The Evangelist sets forth a baptism that links a person with the kingdom of God by relating it to the recreating Spirit, the Lord of the cross and the resurrection, and the faith which acknowledges Jesus as the Revealer-Redeemer from God”.⁸³⁰ As Beasley-Murray suggests Jesus is introduced as a Revealer-Redeemer by way of placing him opposite Nicodemus.

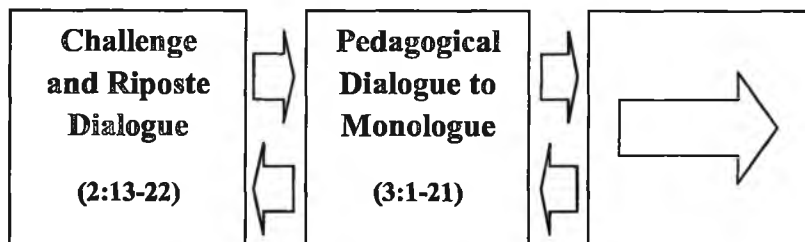


Diagram 18: The placement of the third episode

⁸²⁷ Carson (1991: 199) states that, “The contrast between the ‘earthly things’ and the ‘heavenly things’ is not easy to fathom. Some take the ‘earthly things’ to refer to physical elements such as wind and natural birth, while ‘heavenly things’ refers to the new birth”.

⁸²⁸ Stibbe (1993: 58) states that, “The fundamental revelation which the narrator gives the reader in vv. 16-21 concerns the nature of God and the nature of humanity. Indeed, the narrator’s words highlight the fundamental aspects of the God-humanity dualism”. Cf. Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 45-56; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Newman and Nida, 1980: 75-94.

⁸²⁹ Cf. Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Dodd, 1960: 303-8; Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Carson, 1991: 185-208.

⁸³⁰ Culpepper (1983: 90) is of the opinion that, “The conversation with Nicodemus, like each succeeding sign, dialogue, and discourse, introduces new images and gives a richer texture to the gospel’s interpretation of Jesus”. Cf. Kanagaraj, 2005: 116-30; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Barrett, 1978: 202-19.

The physical structure and the nature of the dialogue can be ascertained only in comparison with the previous and the latter dialogues (see Diagram 18). The narrator directs the reader's attention to a *challenge-and-riposte dialogue* (2: 13-22) to a *pedagogical dialogue turned monologue* (3:1-21; see Diagram 18). The reader is informed about God's giving of his Son Jesus, the act of the Son, his revelatory work as the light of the world, and the necessity of people's believing in him, in attempt to prepare her/him to view the lifting up of the Son of Man. Moreover, Nicodemus' appearances in 7:45-52 and 19:38-42 are decisive in order to understand the characterisation of the person.⁸³¹ The narrative provokes the reader to *see* and *enter* the kingdom of God, being born from above, being born of water and spirit, believe in the saving work of the Son of Man, have the experience of eternal life, and being ignited by the light of the world (cf. Lee, 1994: 48-51; Van Tilborg, 1993: 47-53).⁸³² The performative language of the narrator is a generating factor for the reader for persuasion and action (cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 23-55).

Theological aspects like the kingdom of God, ascending, lifting up of the Son of Man, eternal life, condemnation, being saved and judgment are used proleptically within the larger narrative framework of the gospel (cf. Kermode, 1987: 450). Many scholars view that vv. 16-21 as narratorial commentary (cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 149).⁸³³ Sometimes readers find it difficult to distinguish between the voices of the protagonist and the narrator.⁸³⁴ Stibbe (1993: 57) opines that, "The narrator's voice replaces that of Jesus in v. 16. In v. 16, the point of view is retrospective: the one speaking talks in the past of a God who 'loved' and who 'gave'". In a more clear sense, Jesus the protagonist and the narrator together construct this story with the narrator's presence as a post-resurrection composer is vivid in vv. 16-21. The scene is as dramatic as the narrator delineates the characterisation, sets a clear point of view, and presents the episode progressively as a dialogue (vv. 1-10), a transition (v. 10), and a monologue (vv. 10-21) (Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 118; Bowles, 2010: 7-30).⁸³⁶ Thus the power of language is shown

⁸³¹ Lee (1994: 57-8) opines that, "Nicodemus is the representative of those who are unable to move beyond their struggle for understanding to the resolution of faith".

⁸³² Moloney (1998: 89) says that, "The final remark of the narrator (2:25: 'for he himself knew what was in the person') and the introduction of Nicodemus to the story (3:1: 'Now there was a person, one of the Pharisees') are closely linked. Elements in the literary structure of 3:1-36 also indicate that the presentations of Nicodemus and the Baptist are closely related. The two reports form a diptych, as both contain a narrative in which first Nicodemus (vv. 1-10) and then the Baptist (vv. 22-30) play central role".

⁸³³ Lee (1994: 56) states that, "He [Nicodemus] is presented both as an individual and as representative of the group to which he belongs (see 7:45-52). It is the wider group that Jesus now addresses. In this sense the discourse (vv. 16-21) acts as a commentary on the dialogue (vv. 1-10)". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 215-8; Brown, 1966: 149; Carson, 1991: 204-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 89-94; Brown, 1966: 133-49; Stibbe, 1993: 57-8; Köstenberger, 2004: 128-32.

⁸³⁴ Cf. Brown, 1966: 149; Carson, 1991: 204-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 89-94; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 51; Barrett, 1978: 215-8.

⁸³⁵ Moloney (1998: 90) opines that, "The discourse addresses the reader, and comments authoritatively on the encounter between Jesus and Nicodemus". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 89-94; Brown, 1966: 133-49; Köstenberger, 2004: 128-32; Stibbe, 1993: 57-8; Painter, 1993: 198; Blomberg, 2001: 94; Carson, 1991: 204-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 51; Barrett, 1978: 215-8.

⁸³⁶ Press (2007: 7) says that, "The dialogues work through the interplay of words and deeds, persons and their actions, of arguments and drama". Cf. Powell, 1990: 23-7; Tolmie, 1999: 29-31; Lee, 1994: 48-57.

characterisation, thematic development, narratorial descriptions, and plot development (cf. Warren and Wellek, 1955: 12-5; Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67). Moore (1989: 15; cf. Foster, 1927: 93; Brooks, 1984: 3-5) is of the opinion that, "Plot and character are inseparably bound up in the reading experience . . . Each works to produce the other. Characters are defined in and through the plot, by what they do and by what they say. The plot in turn comes into view as characters act and interact". What Moore says here is apt with regard to the story of 3:1-21. Through all these means the implied reader gathers further knowledge about the person and work of Jesus.⁸³⁷ The narrator introduces the characters as representatives as they represent two diverse communities, and use symbolic and dualistic elements like darkness and light in order to distinguish one from the other.⁸³⁸ Thus the pedagogical dialogue turned monologue communicates the story rhetorically and persuades the reader for positive action (cf. Van Dijk, 1994: 107-24).

Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
<p>Content: The experience of "new birth" is the central theme. Other themes connected to the central theme are God's love for the world through Jesus, the requirement of believing in God's only begotten Son, and the attainment of eternal life // Form: circular, revelatory, <i>double meaning-misunderstanding-clarification sequential</i>, pedagogical dialogue leading to a monologue, <i>teacher to teacher</i> dialogue // Function: The reader is brought to the understanding of the existent conflict between the world from above and the world from below (i.e., 'spiritual' and 'earthly' concerns). The episode provokes the reader to <i>see and enter</i> the kingdom of God, being born from above, being born of water and spirit, believing in the saving work of the Son of Man, having the experience of eternal life, and being ignited by the light of the world</p>	<p>The overarching tenet of the dialogue is its <i>pedagogical nature</i> and the <i>dialogue to monologue development</i>. The involvement of two teachers (i.e., one 'from above' and another 'from below') as the interlocutors and the development of the conversation from a dialogue to a monologue provide the episode a specific overarching format.</p>

Table 19: The summary of the dialogue of the third episode

⁸³⁷ Newheart (1989) discusses in his book about the engagement in the activity of reading. Cf. Tolmie, 1999: 115-144; Powell, 1990: 19-20; Van Aarde, 2009: 383-5.

⁸³⁸ Moloney (1998: 96) says that, "The language of the Prologue returns as Jesus speaks of 'life', 'light', and 'darkness' (vv. 18-21; cf. 1:4-8). Belief leads to freedom from condemnation and to life, but unbelief produces condemnation and death (v. 18)". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 202-19; Carson, 1991: 185-208; Painter, 1993: 195-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 74-94; Blomberg, 2001: 91-5; Dodd, 1960: 303-8; Stibbe, 1993: 53-9; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 80-9; Bennema, 2009: 77-85; Dodd, 1963: 328-34; Funk, 1988: 2-3; Duke, 1985: 108; Brown, 1966: 1: 148.

Episode Four

A Report-and-Defense Dialogue to a Narratorial Commentary (3:22-36)

4.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

The expression ‘after this’ (Μετὰ ταῦτα) in v. 22 connects the short episode (3:22-36) with the Nicodemus episode (3:1-21). While Moloney (1998: 105; cf. Keener, 2003: 575) says that it is, “. . . an expression often used in the Fourth Gospel to indicate a new stage in the narrative”,⁸³⁹ Köstenberger (2004: 135) suggests that, “. . . (Μετὰ ταῦτα) is meant to suggest that these events occurred at an unspecified time interval after Jesus’ Jerusalem ministry”.⁸⁴⁰ One of the remarkable features of v. 22 is that the narrator explains about the shift of setting from Jerusalem to the Judean countryside (cf. Dodd, 1960: 308).⁸⁴¹ The narrator comments that Jesus spent some time⁸⁴² in the Judean countryside with his disciples and engaged in the ministry of baptism (v. 22b; ἐκεῖ διέτριβεν μετ’ αὐτῶν καὶ ἐβάπτιζεν).⁸⁴³ He brings to the notice of the reader another movement parallel to Jesus’ movement, i.e., John was baptizing at Aenon near Salim (3:22-36; cf. 4:1-2; see Morris, 1995: 210; Bruce, 1983: 93).⁸⁴⁴ Moloney (1998: 105; cf. Lindars, 1972: 164-5) points out that, “The location of Aenon is not known for certain, but its description as a place where there

⁸³⁹ Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 135; Carson, 1991: 209; Keener, 2003: 575; Lindars, 1972: 164.

⁸⁴⁰ Cf. Ridderbos, 1997: 143; Carson, 1991: 209; Keener, 2003: 575; Brown, 1966: 150.

⁸⁴¹ Brown (1966: 150-1) translates it as ‘Judean territory’. He quotes Bultmann (1971: 123) and says that, “the real inference is that Jesus went out from the city into the country districts of Judea; and we believe that this could be the adapted meaning of the present context”. Brown (1966: 150-1; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 135; Carson, 1991: 209; Keener, 2003: 574-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52) continues saying that, “However, γῆ probably originally meant ‘territory’, not ‘country district’ . . . which can only refer to Judea as a territory, the Western tradition has added γῆ. The site is not given, but many think of the Judean valley”.

⁸⁴² This is not the usual μένειν, but διέτριβειν. See Brown, 1966: 151; Köstenberger, 2004: 135.

⁸⁴³ Brown (1966: 151) reports that, “Although this verse says that Jesus baptized, 4:2 adds by way of modification that he himself did not baptize. The usual attempt at harmonization maintains that Jesus is said to have baptized in the sense that the disciples baptized in his name”. Moloney (1998: 105) describes it as follows: “Jesus and his disciples move away from the city of Jerusalem into the broader geographical context of ‘the land of Judea’. In this new place Jesus and his disciples remained together, and Jesus baptized. The imperfect tense of the verb ‘to baptize’ (ἐβάπτιζεν) indicates that he resumed a habitual practice (v. 22)”. Brown (1966: 150) says about v. 22 as follows: “This whole verse is an itinerary fragment like those that Mark uses to frame a narrative”.

⁸⁴⁴ The name ‘Aenon’ is from the Aramaic plural of the word for ‘spring’, while ‘Salim’ reflects the Semitic root for ‘peace’ (cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 135; Lindars, 1972: 164; Carson, 1991: 209; Keener, 2003: 574-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52; Pattengale, 1992: 1: 87). Brown (1966: 151) says that, “There are three important traditions for localizing these sites: *first*, In Perea, the Transjordan . . . ; *second*, In the northern Jordan valley, on the west bank some eight miles south of Scythopolis (Bethshan) . . . ; and *third*, In Samaria . . .”.

was much water has led many to suggest a location in Samaria".⁸⁴⁵ The narrator indicates people were coming toward Jesus and were being baptized by him, and John had not yet been thrown into prison (v. 24).⁸⁴⁶ Thus at the larger context (vv. 22-24), two baptism events are outlined: one is of Jesus and his disciples and another is of John the Baptist and his disciples (Morris, 1995: 210-1; Culpepper, 1983: 132-3).

The specific context can be described in the following two ways (vv. 25-26a): *first*, a discussion (ζήτησις)⁸⁴⁷ about purification (καθαρισμοῦ) emerges between John's disciples and a Jew (Pryor, 1997: 15-26).⁸⁴⁸ According to Greeven (1964: 2: 893; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 84; Reinhartz, 2007: 571), "On the basis of the Greek technical term for philosophical enquiry, ζήτησις is used in the New Testament as a *nomen actionis* in the sense of 'debate', or 'dispute'".⁸⁴⁹ *Second*, John's disciples bring the matter to their master and the discussion continues at another level. From the utterance in v. 26b (the expression πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, 'across the Jordan') readers understand that all the previous utterances in 1:19-36 took place on the one side of the River Jordan. This is a *topographical setting* for the entire story (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87).⁸⁵⁰ In contrast, the events narrated in vv. 22-36 are happening on the other side. While the setting of the 'wedding at Cana' was a Galilean countryside, the setting of 3:22-36 is a Judean countryside (cf. Witherington, 2006: 107-8).⁸⁵¹ Thus the two urban stories of cleansing of the temple at Jerusalem and the Nicodemus event are set within an *inclusion* of two country-side stories. Johannine dialogues develop in different settings: from the countryside to the urban (2:1-12 to 2:13-22/3:1-21), and from the urban to the countryside (2:13-22/3:1-21 to 3:22-36). The rural and urban configuration of events in the dialogues presents one of the literary and dramatic features of Johannine narratives (see Talbot, 1997: 107-8).

⁸⁴⁵ Köstenberger (2004: 135-6) says that, "The two primary sites that have been suggested both lie in Samaria: the first is the Salim eight miles southeast of Beth Shean (Scythopolis); another is the Salim four miles southeast of the first, farther south". Painter (1993: 198) considers 3:22-36 as a "transition to the incident in Samaria (4:1-3)".

⁸⁴⁶ Bennema (2009: 23) opines that, "John appears to move freely in the wilderness along the Jordan valley from Bethany in Perea (1:28; 3:26; 10:40) and Aenon in Samaria (3:23)".

⁸⁴⁷ The word ζήτησις is translated as "discussion", "debate", "controversy", "controversial issue", or "investigation". According to Larsson (1981: 2: 103), "ζήτησις appears 7 times in the NT (John 3:25; Acts 15:2, 7; 25:20; 1 Tim 2:23; Tit 3:9). The LXX does not use the word. The basic meaning is what one would expect from the root ζήτηω: *investigation*, but this meaning is seldom what is intended in the NT. The word also means discussion or debate, which is what is most thought of in the NT: the discussion or debate resulting from a religious or philosophical question".

⁸⁴⁸ Keener (2003: 575; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 60) is of the opinion that, "Central to the setting is the matter of purification; John's disciples disagree with traditional views about purification (3:25), as does the Fourth Evangelist (2:6; cf. 11:55)".

⁸⁴⁹ Moloney (1998: 105; cf. Bennema, 2009: 24; Maniparampil, 2004: 218) says that, "Two significant characters are introduced: John the Baptist, who is baptizing (vv. 22-24), and a discussion arises between the disciples of the Baptist and 'a Jew'".

⁸⁵⁰ Resseguie (2005: 95) says that, "Rivers are boundaries that separate one side from another, and thus are a passage from one place to another. They may also represent metaphorical thresholds such as the abandonment of a past life for the beginning of a new life".

⁸⁵¹ Bruce (1983: 93) states that, "It is simplest to understand 'the Judean land' as the country districts of Judea, as opposed to the city".

Episode 4: John 3:22-36 ⁸⁵²	
Dialogue Section (vv. 26b-30)	<i>John's Disciples</i> (to John): 'Ραββί, ὃς ἦν μετὰ σοῦ πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, ᾧ σὺ μεμαρτύρηκας, ἴδε οὗτος βαπτίζει καὶ πάντες ἔρχονται πρὸς αὐτόν <i>John the Baptist</i> : Οὐ δύναται ἄνθρωπος λαμβάνειν οὐδὲ ἐν ἑᾷ μὴ ἢ δεδομένον αὐτῷ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ. αὐτοὶ ὑμεῖς μοι μαρτυρεῖτε ὅτι εἶπον [ὅτι] Οὐκ εἰμὶ ἐγὼ ὁ Χριστός, ἀλλ' ὅτι Ἀπεσταλμένος εἰμὶ ἔμπροσθεν ἐκείνου. ὁ ἔχων τὴν νύμφην νυμφίος ἐστίν· ὁ δὲ φίλος τοῦ νυμφίου ὁ ἐστικὼς καὶ ἀκούων αὐτοῦ χαρὰ χαίρει διὰ τὴν φωνὴν τοῦ νυμφίου. αὕτη οὖν ἡ χαρὰ ἣ ἐμὴ πεπλήρωται. ἐκείνον δεῖ αὐξάνειν, ἐμὲ δὲ ἐλαττοῦσθαι.
Narrative- Commentary (vv. 31-36)	<i>Commentary</i> : Ὁ ἄνωθεν ἐρχόμενος ἐπάνω πάντων ἐστίν· ὁ ὢν ἐκ τῆς γῆς ἐκ τῆς γῆς ἐστίν καὶ ἐκ τῆς γῆς λαλεῖ. ὁ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἐρχόμενος [ἐπάνω πάντων ἐστίν·] ὁ ἐώρακεν καὶ ἤκουσεν τοῦτο μαρτυρεῖ, καὶ τὴν μαρτυρίαν αὐτοῦ οὐδεὶς λαμβάνει. ὁ λαβὼν αὐτοῦ τὴν μαρτυρίαν ἐσφράγισεν ὅτι ὁ θεὸς ἀληθὴς ἐστίν. ὃν γὰρ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὰ ῥήματα τοῦ θεοῦ λαλεῖ, οὐ γὰρ ἐκ μέτρου δίδωσιν τὸ πνεῦμα. ὁ πατὴρ ἀγαπᾷ τὸν υἱὸν καὶ πάντα δέδωκεν ἐν τῇ χειρὶ αὐτοῦ. ὁ πιστεύων εἰς τὸν υἱὸν ἔχει ζωὴν αἰώνιον· ὁ δὲ ἀπειθῶν τῷ υἱῷ οὐκ ὄψεται ζωὴν, ἀλλ' ἡ ὀργὴ τοῦ θεοῦ μένει ἐπ' αὐτόν.

Table 20: The dialogue text of 3:22-36

4.2. Micro-Analysis

In the prologue (1:1-18), the narrator presents both Jesus and John the Baptist, one as the *Word* and the other as a *Witness* (cf. Borchert, 1996: 187).⁸⁵³ The rest of the chapter one introduces dialogues (and a monologue) of John the Baptist and Jesus with the Jews and the disciples (1:19-51; cf. Witherington, 1992: 383-91). Chapter two and the first part of chapter three are mostly dominated by dialogues, i.e., *dialogues within narratives* (2:1-12, 13-22)⁸⁵⁴ and a *dialogue leading to monologue* (3:1-21). Sanders and Mastin (1968: 132) state that, “The whole passage 3:22-30 gives the impression of an interruption, breaking the continuity between vv. 16-21 and 31-36, which can be regarded as two parts of a single meditation”.⁸⁵⁵ What Sanders and Mastin suggest here makes sense as the two sections, i.e., 3:16-21 and 31-36, show thematic continuity (cf. Van Tilborg, 1993: 72-5). But the perplexed statement of John’s disciples (v. 26) and his response to

⁸⁵² The pericope shows three trends: *first*, a narratorial (vv. 22-26a); *second*, a dialogical discourse (vv. 26b-30); and *third*, a narratorial commentary (vv. 31-36).

⁸⁵³ Bennema (2009: 26) states that, “John’s gospel does not mention the content of John’s teaching, except that it appears to be the content of his testimony (1:15, 19-36; 3:27-30)”. It includes the following assertions: *first*, Jesus is more important than he (1:15, 27, 30); *second*, he is no major eschatological figure (1:19-21; 3:28); *third*, he is the prophetic voice announcing the coming Messiah and the new exodus (1:23; 3:28); *fourth*, Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (1:29, 36); *fifth*, Jesus is the Spirit-anointed Messiah (1:32); *sixth*, Jesus is the Spirit-Baptizer while he ‘merely’ baptizes with water (1:26, 33); *seventh*, Jesus is the Son or Chosen One of God (1:34); *eighth*, Jesus is the bridegroom while he is the best man (3:29); *ninth*, Jesus must increase while he must decrease (3:30).

⁸⁵⁴ Most of the dialogues of John’s Gospel are presented along with the running narratives. In another sense, most of the dialogues are wrapped with narrative sections; this peculiar method requires the reader to separate between the dialogues and the narratives.

⁸⁵⁵ Bultmann (1971: 132; cf. Tovey, 1997: 148) brings forward vv. 31-36 to follow vv. 1-21, thus making these verses all part of the ‘discourse of Jesus’. Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 380) asks whether these verses are meant to be a ‘revelation discourse’ of Jesus himself or a ‘kerygmatic discourse of the evangelist’. Tovey (1997: 149) states that, “While he [i.e., Schnackenburg, 381] holds to the latter view, he acknowledges that the question is ‘perhaps falsely put’ because the revelation discourse of Jesus merges into the kerygmatic testimony of the evangelist”.

them (vv. 27-30) bring a conclusion to the story of John the Baptist (cf. Van Tilborg, 1999; see Table 21).

John 3:22-30 (31-36)	Overview
<p>v.22: Μετὰ ταῦτα ἦλθεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν γῆν καὶ ἐκεῖ διέτριβεν μετ' αὐτῶν καὶ ἐβάπτιζεν.</p> <p>v.23: ἦν δὲ καὶ ὁ Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων ἐν Αἰνῶν ἐγγὺς τοῦ Σαλείμ, ὅτι ὕδατα πολλὰ ἦν ἐκεῖ, καὶ παρεγίνοντο καὶ ἐβαπτίζοντο.</p> <p>v.24: οὕτω γὰρ ἦν βεβλημένος εἰς τὴν φυλακὴν ὁ Ἰωάννης.</p> <p>v.25: Ἐγένετο οὖν ζήτησις ἐκ τῶν μαθητῶν Ἰωάννου μετὰ Ἰουδαίου περὶ καθαρισμοῦ.</p> <p>v.26: καὶ ἦλθον πρὸς τὸν Ἰωάννην καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῷ, Ῥαββί, ὃς ἦν μετὰ σοῦ πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, ὃ σὺ μαρτυρῇσας, ἴδε σὺ τοὺς βαπτίζεις καὶ πάντες ἔρχονται πρὸς αὐτόν.</p> <p>v.27: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰωάννης καὶ εἶπεν, Οὐ δύναται ἄνθρωπος λαμβάνειν οὐδὲ ἓν ἔαν μὴ ᾗ δεδομένον αὐτῷ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ.</p> <p>v.28: αὐτοὶ ἡμεῖς μοι μαρτυρεῖτε ὅτι εἶπον [ὅτι] Οὐκ εἰμὶ ἐγὼ ὁ Χριστός, ἀλλ' ὅτι Ἀπεσταλμένος εἰμὶ ἔμπροσθεν ἐκείνου.</p> <p>v.29: ὁ ἔχων τὴν νύμφην νυμφίος ἐστίν· ὁ δὲ φίλος τοῦ νυμφίου ὁ ἐστηκὼς καὶ ἀκούων αὐτοῦ χαρὰ χαίρει διὰ τὴν φωνὴν τοῦ νυμφίου. αὕτη οὖν ἡ χαρὰ ἡ ἐμὴ πεπλήρωται.</p> <p>v.30: ἐκεῖνον δεῖ αὐξάνειν, ἐγὼ δὲ ἐλαττοῦσθαι.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue at vv. 26-30 is comprised of two utterance units (vv. 26b, 27b-30); of these two utterance units one is of the disciples John the Baptist (v. 26b) and one is of John the Baptist (vv. 27b-30);</p> <p>(2) The dialogue at vv. 26-30 leads to a narrative-commentary (vv. 31-36);</p> <p>(3) There is an implicit reference about a dialogue (v. 25) as the background for the explicit dialogue between John and his disciples (vv. 26-30);</p> <p>(4) John the Baptist reaffirms that Οὐκ εἰμὶ ὁ Χριστός (v. 28; cf. 1:19-36);</p> <p>(5) The narratives of the episode are arranged in the following way: pure narrative (vv. 22 and 23) and formula narratives (vv. 24, 26a, 27a).</p>

Table 21: The dialogue of 3:22-30 within the narratorial framework

In the pericope, a discussion (ζήτησις) arose between John's disciples and a Jew about purification (v. 25; καθαρισμοῦ) and that resulted into the dialogue proper (vv. 26b-30; cf. Pryor, 1999: 26).⁸⁵⁶ Moloney (1998: 105; cf. Neyrey, 2009: 124-5; Maniparampil, 2004: 218) opines that the debate 'over purifying' (περὶ καθαρισμοῦ) is stated in the most general terms (cf. 2:6), but in the context it must be related to vv. 22-24. There is an unresolved problem between the disciple John the Baptist and 'a Jew' concerning the baptisms administered by Jesus and by John (v. 25).⁸⁵⁷ The content of the dialogue at 3:26b-30 is based on the dispute that developed between John's disciples and a particular Jewish person (v. 25; see Table 21).

⁸⁵⁶ Witherington (1995: 108) is of the opinion that, "The issue here is not Christian baptism, even when discussing what Jesus' followers are doing, but rather various forms of Jewish purification rituals and their merits". See Köstenberger, 2004: 134-8; Barrett, 1978: 219-27; Carson, 1991: 208-12; Keener, 2003: 574-81; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-4; Keener, 2003: 574-81; Köstenberger, 2004: 134-8; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Bruneau, 1993: 93-8; Culpepper, 1983: 132-3.

⁸⁵⁷ Moloney (1998: 105) also states that, "Two characters have been located in different places and both are described as practicing baptism. There is no hint in these introductory remarks that there was any qualitative difference between the two baptisms. The focus is on the baptizers, not the respective merits of their baptismal rites". See Carson, 1991: 208-12; Barrett, 1978: 219-27; Bennema, 2005: 50-3; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 131-4; Moloney, 1998: 104-11.

Jesus is addressed as a *Rabbi* in 1:38, 49 and 3:2; and, now, John the Baptist is also addressed as a *Rabbi* (cf. Witherington, 1992: 383-91; Riesner, 1992: 807-11).⁸⁵⁸ Bennema (2009: 26; cf. Schneider, 1993: 3: 205-6; Lee, 1994:58) says that, “In 3:26, John is called ‘Rabbi’, which means teacher (cf. 1:38).⁸⁵⁹ In Judaism a rabbi had disciples, and indeed so does John (1:35; 3:25). Using his influence as a teacher, John directs his disciples to Jesus”. After introducing *Rabbi Jesus* in the previous episodes, the narrator, now, introduces *Rabbi John* in juxtaposition (cf. Riesner, 1992: 807-11; Lee, 1994: 58).⁸⁶⁰ John’s disciples address him ‘Ραββί and inform him about an incident in four successive clauses as follows: *first*, ὃς ἦν μετὰ σοῦ πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, *second*, ᾧ σὺ μεμαρτύρηκας, *third*, ἴδε οὗτος βαπτίζει (cf. Dockery, 1992: 55-8; Borchert, 1996: 188-92), and *fourth*, πάντες ἔρχονται πρὸς αὐτόν (cf. Brodie, 1993: 205-6; Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 414-5). All the four clauses are telling of the facts about Jesus.⁸⁶¹ The first two establish the connection between Jesus and John, and the last two caution about the way Jesus’ activities becoming a challenge for John’s mission (see Table 21). John’s response contains the following four aspects: *first*, his implicit statement about his call (as a witness; v. 27); *second*, his analeptical statements, “I am not the Messiah” (v. 28; cf. 1:20) and “I have been sent ahead of him” (v. 28; cf. 1:27, 30);⁸⁶² *third*, his use of the metaphor of the *bride*, *bridegroom*, and *friend of the bridegroom* (v. 29a; cf. Van Tilborg, 1993: 75-6),⁸⁶³ and his emphasis on the duty as a friend of the bridegroom and the joy of fulfilling that (v. 29b; cf. Smith, 1999: 105; Dodd, 1963: 282-5, 385-6); and *fourth*, John’s aim of life: “he [Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease” (v. 30; cf. Neyrey, 2009: 123-42).⁸⁶⁴ Köstenberger (2004: 133; cf. Van Tilborg, 1993: 75-6; Maniparampil, 2004: 217-8) makes

⁸⁵⁸ Smith (1999: 104) says that, “John’s disciples now turn to him They call John ‘Rabbi’, agreeing exactly with what Jesus’ disciples initially called him (1:38)”.

⁸⁵⁹ Nicodemus (3:10) and Jesus (1:38, 49; 3:2; 4:31; 6:25; 11:28; 13: 13-14) are also designated as teachers. Cf. Bennema, 2009: 26; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Bruce, 1983: 93-8; Culpepper, 1983: 132-3.

⁸⁶⁰ It is more similar to the way Jesus and Nicodemus are presented in the previous episode (3:1-21; both as ‘teachers’). See Carson, 1991: 208-12; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 131-4; Barrett, 1978: 219-27; Kanagaraj, 2005: 131-4; Bennema, 2005: 50-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-4; Keener, 2003: 574-81; Moloney, 1998: 104-11; Köstenberger, 2004: 134-8; Brown, 1966: 150-62. Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 93) see at least seven parallels between the “Nicodemus Event” (3:1-21) and John the Baptist Event (3:22-36). They are: *first*, Born *anōthen* (from above) (3:3, 7) // the one coming *anōthen* (from above) is above all (3:31); *second*, Jesus: the one who came down from heaven (3:13) // Jesus who comes down from heaven (3:31b); *third*, opposing types of people—flesh and spirit (3:6), earthly and celestial (3:12) // opposing types of people—earthly and celestial (3: 31); *fourth*, “We speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not accept our testimony” (3:11) // “He testifies to what he has seen and heard, yet no one accepts his testimony” (3: 32); *fifth*, God sent the Son (3:17) // the one whom God has sent (3:34); *sixth*, “that whoever believes in the Son may have eternal life” (3:15, 16) // “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life” (3:36); and *seventh*, Judgment (3:19-21) // Judgment (3:36).

⁸⁶¹ See Keener, 2003: 574-81; Carson, 1991: 208-12; Barrett, 1978: 219-27; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 131-4; Bennema, 2005: 50-3; Brown, 1966: 150-62; Köstenberger, 2004: 134-8; Moloney, 1998: 104-11.

⁸⁶² Smith (1999: 105) says that, “Again John says ‘Messiah’ in the NRSV, but here the Greek is *Christos* (Christ), which in effect becomes a technical Christian theological term or title”.

⁸⁶³ Bennema (2009: 26; cf. Brodie, 1993: 202) says that, “The main feature of John’s teaching is that he continually defines himself and his role as subordinate to Jesus. At the same time, John’s testimony shows his profound understanding of Jesus”. Cf. Culpepper, 1983: 132-3; Bruce, 1983: 93-8; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8.

⁸⁶⁴ Smith (1999: 105) says that, “John’s concluding word is well crafted to ensure that his disciples, and the reader, are left with no doubt about who is more prominent in their relationship”. See Moloney, 1998: 105-6; cf. Barrett, 1978:

it clear that, “In a poignant metaphor, John describes his [John the Baptist’s] role as that of a ‘man’, as ‘friend of the bridegroom’ (3:29), who rejoices with the groom [i.e., Jesus] without a sense of rivalry or competitiveness” (see Table 21).⁸⁶⁵ The interlocutors within the dialogue section use rich language and that are highlighted through the narration of the story.

The context of the dialogue (3:25-30) is well addressed through the *itinerary* description in vv. 24-25. This dynamic presentation of narratives and a dialogue is intentional for clearing the perplexity of the community of John the Baptist (cf. v. 26).⁸⁶⁶ The responsive utterances of the Baptist, like Οὐκ εἰμὶ ἐγὼ ὁ Χριστός, Ἀπεσταλμένος εἰμὶ ἔμπροσθεν ἐκείνου, ἡ χάρις μου πεπλήρωται, and ἐκεῖνον δεῖ αὐξάνειν, ἐμὲ δὲ ἐλαττοῦσθαι, are intended to prove that he is the Messiah (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 146-7; Pryor, 1997: 15-26). John’s final statement ἐκεῖνον αὐξάνειν, ἐμὲ δὲ ἐλαττοῦσθαι (v. 30) is becoming efficacious as Jesus’ ministry gets increased and his own ceases from hereafter (cf. Brodie, 1993: 201-2; Witherington, 1992: 383-91). So, after the short dialogue, the narrator appears with his commentary as a continuation to the dialogue (vv. 31-36). Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 92) say that, “As in a number of places in John’s Gospel, it is difficult to tell who is speaking here. Since the passage parallels the themes of the previous scene (3:1-21), it may well be the author’s summary of what has gone before”.⁸⁶⁷ The language from vv. 27-30 to vv. 31-36 proves that the section at vv. 31-36 is a narrative explanation.⁸⁶⁸ The narrator emphasises the following four things in his commentary: *first*, John has a specific message telling about the paradoxical functions of the one ‘from above’ and the one who are ‘from below’ (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 148-9; Wallace, 1996: 359);⁸⁶⁹ *second*, v. 33: one from above testifies about ‘what he has seen and heard’, but no one believes (cf. 1:10); His testimony is a certification to affirm that God is true;⁸⁷⁰ *third*, vv. 34-35: the one who has been sent from above speaks the ‘words of truth’, gives the ‘Spirit without measure’, and God has placed all things in his hand (cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 66; Schnackenburg, 1990: 386-8);⁸⁷¹ and *fourth*, v. 36: antithetical parallelism: between ‘whoever believes the son

219-27; Bennema, 2005: 50-3; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 131-4; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-4; Brown, 1966: 160; Carson, 1991: 208-12; Keener, 2003: 574-81; Köstenberger, 2004: 134-8.

⁸⁶⁵ Cf. Bennema, 2009: 26-7; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Culpepper, 1983: 132-3; Bruce, 1983: 93-8.

⁸⁶⁶ Here, the ‘community of John the Baptist’ is comprised of those who followed him from the beginning.

⁸⁶⁷ Köstenberger (2004: 133) says that, “As in the case in 3:16, 3:31 probably marks the transition from the speaker as a character in the narrative to the evangelist’s own exposition”. Also see Stibbe, 1993: 61; Culpepper, 1983: 132-3; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Bruce, 1983: 93-8.

⁸⁶⁸ Mainly two things are noticeable: *first*, while in vv. 27-30 John uses personal (i.e., by the help of pronouns) language, the section vv. 31-36 is addressed in a general sense; and *second*, John 3:31-36 is similar to 3:16-21 in terms of language, and presentation.

⁸⁶⁹ Brodie (1993: 207; cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 160) says that, “. . . the distinction between the one who is ‘from above’ and the one who is ‘from the earth’ refers first of all, as some earlier exegetes suggested, to John, to the distinction between Jesus and John. This does not involve any belittling of John and his prophetic preaching”.

⁸⁷⁰ Michaels (1984/1989: 66) opines that, “John the Baptist is the prototype of all who endorse God’s truth by recognising Jesus as his unique messenger. In that sense, John is the first Christian”. Cf. Dodd, 1953: 308-9; Carson, 1991: 212; Witherington, 1995: 110; Keener, 2003: 574-83; Carson, 1991: 208-14; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 131-7; Bennema, 2005: 50-3; Schnackenburg, 1990: 1: 381; Bruce, 1983: 93-8; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 53-4; contra Ridderbos, 1997: 148; Barrett, 1978: 224.

⁸⁷¹ Strachan (1941: 19) says that, “In the Fourth Gospel the words of Jesus are the words of God (3:34)”.

‘whoever disobeys the son’, and between ‘eternal life’ and ‘will not see life’ (cf. Brodie, 1993: 206-8).⁸⁷² In semantic terms, the dialogue and the succeeding narratorial commentary reaffirm the messiahship and superiority of Jesus yet another time through the witnessing of the friend of the bridegroom (cf. Duke, 1985: 101; Reinhartz, 1994: 571).

The form of the dialogue as a whole can be ascertained on the basis of the following details. Rather than calling it a *dialogue leading to a monologue*, it is likely to understand the sequence in the following order: an *itinerary narrative* (vv. 22-24), an *abbreviation narrative* (vv. 25), a *dialogue* (vv. 26-30),⁸⁷³ and a *narratorial commentary* (vv. 31-36). The plot structure of the slot shows that the story begins as a narrative section at two levels (vv. 22-24; 25-26a) and ends as a narratorial commentary (vv. 31-36).⁸⁷⁴ The whole section can be broadly divided into three sub-sections: *first*, Jesus and John the Baptist are introduced in *juxtaposition* (3:22-24; cf. Powell, 1990: 32); *second*, a *dialogue* between John the Baptist and his disciples (3:25-30; cf. Neyrey, 2009: 123-42); and *third*, a *narratorial commentary* (3:31-36).⁸⁷⁵ The linguistic phenomenon and the stylistic development of the story prompt the reader to make a division in a more detailed manner as follows (cf. Funk, 1988: 5-7; Botha, 1991: 71-87): *first*, Jesus’ itinerant mission (v. 22); *second*, a characterial juxtaposition (vv. 23-24); *third*, an *abbreviated dialogue* in narrative format (v. 25; cf. Pryor, 1997: 15-26);⁸⁷⁶ *fourth*, a dialogue proper (vv. 26-30; cf. Duke, 1985: 83; Neyrey and Rohrbaugh, 2001: 468-76); and *fifth*, a narratorial commentary (vv. 31-36).⁸⁷⁷ Among the five categories, the third section can be considered as an abbreviation of a dialogue happened between John’s disciples and a Jew.⁸⁷⁸ The fourth section (vv. 26-30) is the dialogue proper of the passage. The pericope maintains several literary features. In vv. 22-24, the narrator introduces a pair of

⁸⁷² Resseguie (2001: 10) states, “In 3:31-36, it is unclear whether John the Baptist is speaking or the narrator. Similarly, does Jesus speak in 3:13-21 or the narrator?” Culpepper (1983: 42) labels this as “a classic instance of the blending of the narrator with Jesus’ voice”. See Köstenberger, 2004: 138-40; Bennema, 2005: 50-3; Carson, 1991: 208-14; Moloney, 1998: 106-7; Barrett, 1978: 219-27; Keener, 2003: 574-83; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 131-7.

⁸⁷³ The utterances of any character (here, of John’s disciples and of John) can be interpreted “only with respect to the person who utters it and the situation in which he utters it” (cf. Genette, 1980: 212).

⁸⁷⁴ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 148) says that, “Verses 31-36 are joined to what precedes without explanation or attribution. It is more or less natural to take them as a continuation of the words of John the Baptist, who would thus continue to speak of Jesus’ superior greatness, though no longer in relation to himself, as in the preceding verses”. See more about ‘plot and character’ in Moore, 1989: 14-5. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61; Bruce, 1983: 94-8; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 89-95; Bennema, 2009: 26-7; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8.

⁸⁷⁵ Talbert (1992: 105) considers 3:22-4:3 as a unit held together by an inclusion: “3:22-26 ([a] Jesus comes into Judea, 3:22; [b] Jesus is baptizing, 3:22; [c] John’s disciples feel competition with Jesus, 3:26) and 4:1-3 ([c] Pharisees hear about competition over baptism, 4:1; [b] Jesus himself does not baptize, but only his disciples, 4:2; [a] Jesus leaves Judea, 4:3)”. Painter (1993: 198) treats vv. 22-36 as a transition to the Samaritan incident (4:1-3).

⁸⁷⁶ Neyrey (2007: 84) says that, “Whereas the NRSV translates the phrase as ‘a discussion about purification’ (3:25), the Greek term ζήτησις also means ‘controversy’ or ‘dispute’”.

⁸⁷⁷ Dodd (1960: 308; cf. De Jonge, 1977: 29) considers 3:22-36 as a dialogue leading to monologue. But he is not able to provide clues about who the real speaker of the monologue (i.e., the narratorial commentary, vv. 31-36) is. See Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61; Bruce, 1983: 94-8; Bennema, 2009: 26-7.

⁸⁷⁸ John’s method of *abbreviating* stories, dialogues and incidents is vivid from passages like 2:12; 2:23-25; and 3:22-24. According to Guthrie (1961: 331), “it is suggested that this passage (i.e., 3:22-30) would fit better if placed between 2:12 and 2:13, on the grounds that in its present position it interrupts Nicodemus’ discourse”. Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 59-61; Bruce, 1983: 94-8; Bennema, 2009: 26-7; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8.

juxtaposed events followed by an *explanatory note* (cf. Brown, 1966: 1: cxxxiii-cxxxv; 1960: 350-64).⁸⁷⁹ In v. 29, he uses a *proverbial* statement. After v. 30 the dialogue section (vv. 26b-30) turns into a *narratorial commentary* (vv. 31-36; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 60-1).⁸⁸⁰ According to Neyrey (2006: 201), "In a very real sense, the narrator mediates the story, guiding the reader to understand and interpret characters and events a certain way".⁸⁸¹ The narratorial commentary begins and ends with a *stylistic inclusion* as both v. 31 and v. 36 are examples of *anti parallelism* (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 56-8). The entire section is a portrayal of the narrator using various expressions: Μετὰ ταῦτα (v. 22), Ἐγένετο οὖν ζήτησις (v. 25), and Ὁ ἄνωθεν ἐρχόμενος (v. 26) provide explanatory beginnings (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 380-418).⁸⁸² These stylistic peculiarities, stylistic elements, characterial movements and dramatic features contribute to the development of the narrative syntactics of the story.⁸⁸³

As mentioned above, the entire pericope maintains a *narratorial*, *dialogue*, and *narratorial* sequence in order to wrap up the dialogue diplomatically within the narrative (cf. Lee, 1998: 199). While the characters who involve in the dialogue appear before the reader as people of arguable and convincing statements,⁸⁸⁴ the narrator takes up the subject matter of the story personally through his presentation and narratorial framework. The utterance forms include *elementary complaint* or *information*, *gossip* or *report* (v. 26; cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 89-95), *confession*, *witnessing*, and *teaching by way of a metaphor* (vv. 27-30)⁸⁸⁵ and they t

⁸⁷⁹ The explanatory note is: "John, of course, had not yet been thrown into prison" (v. 24; NRSV).

⁸⁸⁰ Stibbe (1993: 60) states that, "This narrative gives us the opportunity to highlight a literary device frequently found in John. John's story revels in echo effects. One part of the story resonates with other parts through the repetition of various key words The most important echoes are with narratives which precede 3:23-30 (analepses, flashbacks). There are a number of analepses with 1:19-34 (the first two stories focusing on the Baptist) in 3:23-30. In 3:23-30, John says 'I am not (Οὐκ εἰμι) the Messiah'. This parallels his pronouncement in 1:19, 'I am not (Οὐκ εἰμι) the Messiah'. Stibbe (1993: 60) says further that, "The most interesting echoes, however, are with the Cana miracle in 2:1-11. Stibbe (1993: 60) finds four echoes with 2:1-11: *first*, plentiful supply of water (2:6; cf. 3:23); *second*, ceremonial washing (3:25); *third*, the theme of marriage (2:9; cf. 3:29); and *fourth*, the usage of the word 'inferior' (v. 2:10; cf. 3:23-30; cf. 1:19-34; 15:11; 16:24).

⁸⁸¹ Neyrey (2007: 87) considers John 3:31-36 as a peroration or conclusion to John 3:1-21. The link between 3:1-21 and 3:31-36 can be established on account of the seven points put forward by Neyrey: *first*, 3:3, 7 & 31; *second*, 3:4 & 31; *third*, 3:6, 12 & 31; *fourth*, 3:11 & 32; *fifth*, 3:17 & 34; *sixth*, 3:5-8 & 34; and *seventh*, 3:19-21 & 36. Neyrey (2003: 581) considers this portion as the author's "theological reflection" on the Baptist's testimony. Cf. Brant (1994: 94-8; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 89-95).

⁸⁸² See Bennema, 2009: 26-7; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61.

⁸⁸³ The narrative grammar of the episode shows ample evidences about the conscious arrangement of the text. Funk (1988: 6) is of the opinion that, "Narrative grammar is raising to the conscious level what narrators are doing in their narrative practice each time they tell or read a story". Brant (2004: 114; cf. Elam, 1980: 157) says that, ". . . the task of the audience listening to a dialogue or a monologue in a play is different from the task of an audience listening to a lecture. The questions that an auditor of a play must answer involve not only what language means but also what language does".

⁸⁸⁴ For example, John the Baptist and his disciples in the present snippet.

⁸⁸⁵ Blomberg (2001: 97; cf. Van der Watt, 2009: 305-40; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 147; Brant, 2004: 253; Baldwin, 1984: 134) is of the opinion that, "Verse 28 finds John echoing his teaching of 1:20. His addition in this context is in the form of a short metaphor or parable about a bridegroom and his friend (v. 29), which he then applies to himself (v. 30)".

contribute toward the narrative flow of the pericope (cf. Lee, 1994: 58; see Table 22).⁸⁸⁶ The narrator's method of focalisation⁸⁸⁷ of John the Baptist is obvious here; while he restricts the dispute between John's disciples and a certain Jew within a narratorial note (v. 25), he reports the dialogue between John and his disciples in detail (vv. 26-30; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 84-6).

Utterance	Form	Content
Disciples of John the Baptist	Complaint, information, gossip, report	Jesus is baptizing and all are going to him
John the Baptist	Confession, witnessing, teaching, metaphor/parable, "I am not" saying, defensive talk	No one can receive anything except what God has been given from heaven; John is not the Messiah, but one has been sent ahead of the Messiah; a <i>bride</i> , <i>bridegroom</i> , and <i>friend of the bridegroom</i> statement; John's joy has been fulfilled; and Jesus must increase, but John must decrease.

Table 22: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 3:22-30/31-36

As Stibbe (1993: 59-61) rightly points out this dialogue contains the *climactic pronouncement* of John the Baptist. Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 92) say, "The *report* to John here indicates that Jesus is a subject of *gossip*—that is, *talk* between two parties about an absent third party . . . John *defends* Jesus and *testifies* to the divine origin of his mission".⁸⁸⁸ Further, Kanagaraj (2005: 134; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 59) suggests that, "Knowing the divine plan, the Baptist is glad to *confess* that Jesus the Messiah must increase, while he himself must decrease".⁸⁸⁹ From these scholarly arguments, the paradigmatic reader gathers that the little dialogue is introduced in order to bring into notice the *climactic pronouncement* of John that has elements of a *defence*, *testimony*, and *confession*. All the above suggestions help us to fix the form of the dialogue as a *report and defensive talk* or a *complaint and clarification* conversation. The dialogue is flavoured by literary devices like *analepsis* (v. 28; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 60; Baldick, 1990: 9), *prolepsis* (v. 29; cf. 16:20-22; Brant, 2004: 247, 250; Brodie, 1993: 205), *repetition* (v. 28; cf. 1:20b; 1:27, 30; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 42-54; Van der Watt, 2009b: 87-108), and *contrast* or *antithetical parallelism* (v. 30) in order to persuade the reader. Dodd (1960: 308) says that, "Down to verse 30 the words of the Baptist seem directly appropriate to the dramatic situation; but from 31 onwards the discourse becomes more general, and has often been regarded as representing the evangelist's reflections in his own person, as distinct from the Baptist's reply".⁸⁹⁰ This suggestion of Dodd informs the reader

⁸⁸⁶ Cf. Bruce, 1983: 94-5; Bennema, 2009: 26-7; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61.

⁸⁸⁷ The expression is used here with a different connotation. The narrator of the gospel attempts to lead the readers toward a particular subject matter with focus from beginning till end of the macro-narrative. Hence he abbreviates several events those are not directly attached to the central topic. This can be the reason for the abbreviation of the dialogue between John's disciples and a Jew in 3:25. See Tolmie, 1999: 29-38; Resseguie, 2005: 167-92.

⁸⁸⁸ Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 92) opine that, "Gossip talk is always [implicitly or explicitly] evaluative talk. It discusses people in relation to group values and expectations and in relation to each other".

⁸⁸⁹ Cf. Carson, 1991: 212; Blomberg, 2001: 97; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 53; Newman and Nida, 1980: 100.

⁸⁹⁰ Also see the aspects of 'foregrounding and drama'. Cf. Elam, 1980: 16-9; Baldick, 1990: 61-2.

that John 3:22-31 maintains the form of a *report and defence dialogue* followed by a *narratorial commentary*.

At the pragmatic level, we may have to look at the dynamic interlocking of the text and reader.⁸⁹¹ As we have already noticed, the *report and defence dialogue* (vv. 26-30) fits within the framework of the larger pericope (i.e., vv. 22-36). A serious reader may raise a question: 'Why is John the Baptist again in the scene after a pause?' The answer to this question is found in the function of the dialogue (cf. Pryor, 1997: 15-26). John the Baptist's presence and utterances reaffirm the messiahship and superiority of Jesus (vv. 28, 30).⁸⁹² His defence provides information for the implied reader about the identity of Jesus (cf. Court, 1997; Chatman, 1978: 151). John introduces Jesus as one from the Father (v. 27), the Messiah (v. 28), the bridegroom (v. 29a), one who has a heavenly 'voice' (v. 29b), and who is about to increase in power (v. 30).⁸⁹³ Furthermore, the implied author provides additional information about Jesus (who is 'from above') in comparison to John (who is 'from below') (vv. 31-36). As Ricoeur (1988: 3: 166-7) mentions, "... the reader is, finally, the prey and the victor of the strategy worked out by the implied author".⁸⁹⁴ While the implied author informs through the characterial dialogue (vv. 26-30) and the narratorial explanation (vv. 22-25, 31-36), the reader acquires further knowledge about the identity of Jesus.⁸⁹⁵ Two things work within the narratorial framework: *first*, on the one hand, the narrator deciphers the story through the dialogue of the characters and their dialogue; and *second*, on the other hand, the characters and the narrator together dramatise the event (cf. Tan, 1993: 50-89).

⁸⁹¹ Powell (1990: 14; cf. Aristotle, 1991: viii-16; Thiselton, 1992: 31; Lausberg, 1960/1998) says that, "With circles, rhetorical criticism is viewed as a pragmatic approach to literature that focuses on the means through which work achieves a particular effect on its reader". He says further that, "The Roman poet and satirist Horace has the purpose of writing as either to instruct or to delight the reader or, preferably, to do both (Horace, *Art of Poetry*, mentioned a third function, to move or persuade (Cicero, *Orator* 69)".

⁸⁹² Ridderbos (1987/1997: 147) states that, "... relationship between John and Jesus is now elaborated with a wedding metaphor. The point of comparison is the difference between the bridegroom and 'the friend of the bridegroom'". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 95-106; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Bruce, 1983: 93-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-6; Carson, 1991: 208-14; Bennema, 2009: 22-30; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61.

⁸⁹³ Jesus is also addressed as the bridegroom, one who comes from above, one who testifies, one whom God loves, one in order to speak the words of God, one who gives the Spirit without measure, and one whom Father loves. The point of the story is being persuaded through these christological details as the larger story of John is written "so that (the reader) may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God" (20: 31). Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 59-61; Bruce, 1983: 93-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 95-106; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-6; Bennema, 2009: 22-30.

⁸⁹⁴ Ricoeur (1988: 3: 166-7) says that, "From a purely rhetorical perspective, the reader is, finally, the prey and the victor of the strategy worked out by the implied author, and is so to the very extent this strategy is more concealed".

⁸⁹⁵ The dialogue proper (vv. 26b-30) of the episode introduces themes such as baptism, testify, given from above, bride, bridegroom, and friend of the bridegroom interaction, witness, rejoice, spirit, joy, fulfillment and increase of Jesus/decrease of John with a renewed interest. Cf. Smith, 1999: 102; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-6; Newman and Nida, 1980: 95-106; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61; Bruce, 1983: 93-8; Carson, 1991: 208-14; Bennema, 2009: 22-30; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Brown, 1966: 150-63; Moloney, 1998: 104-14; Köstenberger, 2004: 134-40; Milne, 1993: 80-2; Tenney, 1994: 306-7; Filson, 1963: 47-9.

Charactorial comparison

John the Baptist	Jesus
Rabbi, from the world (3:26, 31-36)	Rabbi, from God (3:2, 31-36)
Witness (3:28)	Word (1:1-5, 14)
I am not (3:28)	I am (6:35, 41, 48, 51; 8:12; 9:5; 10:7, 9, 11, 14; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1, 5)
Friend of the bridegroom (3:29)	Bridegroom (3:29)
Baptizes, and his disciples are complaining (3:22-26)	Baptizes, and all are going to him (3:26)
One who was sent ahead (3:28)	One who came after (1:27, 30)
One who hears and rejoices (3:29)	One who has a voice (3:29)
One who decreases (3:30)	One who increases (3:30)

Table 23: Characterisation of John the Baptist and Jesus

The *report and defense* dialogue section is at the centre of the narrative section and the narrative keeps it a dynamic and a reader-friendly one. Though ‘absent’ from the scene, Jesus’ character develops as a dynamic and progressive one; though ‘present’, John’s character plays the role of a witness and recedes to the background.⁸⁹⁶ Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 92) opine that, “The larger aim of this passage (vv. 25-30) is to present an evaluation of Jesus. In reporting that Jesus is the subject of evaluative talk, the author introduces his own evaluation, in which he places John in a subordinate position to Jesus”. The evaluation talk is paramount in the *report and defence dialogue* section, especially in John’s defensive talk (vv. 27-30). The evaluation talk is further accretes in the narratorial commentary (vv. 31-36; see Table 23).⁸⁹⁷ John’s response paves the way for the smooth flow of the succeeding narratorial commentary (i.e., 31-36). The dialogue proper (vv. 26b-30) rightly mentions about the decreasing ministry of John the Baptist and the increasing ministry of Jesus.⁸⁹⁸ Tenney (1994: 306) says that, “The argument between a Jewish inquirer and the disciples of John indicates that there must have been confusion over the respective merits of Jesus and John By popular acclaim Jesus’ influence was growing and John’s was waning”.⁸⁹⁹ John’s statement in v. 30 can be considered as a properly carved out conclusive utterance.⁹⁰⁰ Through all these means, the backgrounded Jesus is foregrounded for the reader’s attention.

⁸⁹⁶ Neyrey (2009: 126-42; cf. Smith, 1999: 105; Witherington, 1995: 109-10) states that, “. . . John makes one of the most counter-cultural statements in the New Testament: ‘He [Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease’ (v. 30) For John insists that he is not pained or distressed at Jesus’ ‘increase’. And so he readily surrenders his reputation and honor, which belong to Jesus by right”. Neyrey (2009: 641-2) further says that, “Rarely does one find in Greek or Israelite literature a public figure who willingly and peacefully allows his honor and prestige to diminish without envy and hostile reaction. Therefore, it is only when readers appreciate the cultural perception of ‘limited good’, which leads to a sense of pain and distress and issues in envy, that they hear what the characters are saying and understand the strikingly unusual response of John to his disciples”.

⁸⁹⁷ See Guthrie, 1994: 1032-3; Brown, 1966: 1: 150-63; Filson, 1963: 47-9; Bernard, 1929: 127-32; Milne, 1993: 80-2; Köstenberger, 2004: 134-40; Tenney, 1994: 306-7.

⁸⁹⁸ Especially it is more obvious in Jesus’ ministry in Samaria (4:1-42) and beyond.

⁸⁹⁹ Barrett (1978: 219) says that Jesus is superior and he is “unlike John and the Jews, he is not of the earth but from above”. Also see Filson, 1963: 47-9; Bernard, 1929: 127-32; Brown, 1966: 150-63; Guthrie, 1994: 1032-3.

⁹⁰⁰ Barrett (1978: 219) is of the opinion that John’s intention is “to bring out the truth expressed in 3:30, possibly with some polemical intention against the adherents of the Baptist”. Similarly, Guthrie (1994: 1032) points out that, “John the Baptist repeated the superiority of Jesus, as he had already done in chap. 1. It was not only John who must

The narrator finds the importance of presenting the matter in a rhetorical and dialogical v Black, 2001: 9).⁹⁰¹ John gives an implicit call to his disciples in order to turn to Jesus. His utterances like “I am not the Messiah” (v. 28), “I have been sent ahead of him” (v. 28), “The one who has the bride is the bridegroom” (v. 29), and “He must increase, but I must decrease” (v. 30) are words of complete surrender (cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 95-106; Blomberg, 2001: 95-106; Beasley-Murray (1987: 55; cf. Brodie, 1993: 205) opines that, “The dialogue of John the Baptist with his disciples has a different issue in view: in the light of the continued existence of the communities claiming to follow John the Baptist, it was essential that the Johannine community understood the significance of John’s ministry and baptism; both were ordained by Christ for his sake and both were ordained to end for his sake”.⁹⁰² The dialogue between John and his disciples ends the mission of the Baptist’s movement strategically. The narrative style of the pericope, through characterial contrasts or juxtapositions (cf. Brodie, 1993: 207), repetition (cf. Van Tilborg, 1993: 71-5; Van der Watt, 2009b: 87-108), dramatic interactions (cf. Brant, 1993: 114; Elam, 1980: 157, 176-8), specific details,⁹⁰³ and interchange of narratives,⁹⁰⁴ is a significant aspect for a reader to look at. The performative role of language⁹⁰⁵ is obvious through the devices and the foregrounding and backgrounding characterisation of Jesus and John. The narrator takes up the subject matter of John’s surrender with importance and coins the *report and dialogue* in order to put an end to the existing juxtaposition between Jesus and John.

4.3. Meso-Analysis

The content of the dialogue is circumscribed around Jesus’ messiahship and his superior position to John the Baptist.⁹⁰⁶ The episode has the format of a *report and defence dialogue* followed by *narratorial commentary* (see Table 24). It functions to direct the attention of the reader to Jesus the Messiah through characterial juxtaposition (cf. Greimas, 1987: 63-83; Lothe, 2002: 10). Thus the content, form, and function of the dialogic genre contribute to the narratorial

decrease, but the old order which he represented”. See Carson, 1991: 208-14; Bennema, 2009: 22-30; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-6; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61; Newman and Nida, 1980: 95-106.

⁹⁰¹ The rhetorical reding of the story enables us to understand the event in contextually-inclined terms. (Elam, 2005: 237; Bauckham, 1998; Burridge, 1992; Classen, 2000: 91) says, “In recent years, there has been a recognition that the gospel writers were strongly influenced by the literary models and conventions of their day”.

⁹⁰² Blomberg (2001: 97; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 416-7) states that, “. . . Johannine language again enters into the dialogue. Most notable is the Baptist’s reference to his joy being complete” (v. 29; cf. especially 1 John 1: 14).

⁹⁰³ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 144; cf. Chatman, 1978: 147-95; Tolmie, 1999: 21-2; Funk, 1988: 2-3; Van Aarde, 2000: 381-418) considers some of the narratorial statements as “parenthetical statements”.

⁹⁰⁴ Powell (1990: 33) says that, “‘Interchange’ involves an alternation of elements in an ‘a, b, a, b’ pattern. (Elam, 2005: 237; Bauckham, 1998; Burridge, 1992; Classen, 2000: 91) says, “In recent years, there has been a recognition that the gospel writers were strongly influenced by the literary models and conventions of their day”.

⁹⁰⁵ Cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67; Funk, 1988: 11; Witherington, 1995: 109; Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-34.

⁹⁰⁶ Maniparampil (2004: 217) says that, “The Fourth Gospel alone presents a simultaneous ministry of John the Baptist and Jesus. In this polemical episode, the distinction between the baptism of John and that of Jesus is made evident. John is compared to the friend of a bridegroom”.

the episode.⁹⁰⁷ The plot of the entire episode is to bring to the notice of the reader about the unquestionable affirmation that ‘Jesus is one with authority from above’.⁹⁰⁸ The episode has both *implicit* (v. 25) and *descriptive* (vv. 26-30; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 10; Witherington, 1995: 108-10) dialogic trends as well as a *narratorial commentary* at the end (vv. 31-36; see Diagram 19).⁹⁰⁹ The narrator employs both interactional and transactional language through these multiple literary genres.⁹¹⁰ He uses rhetorics by means of characters’ utterances in order to persuade the reader toward belief in Jesus (cf. Court, 1997: 79-85; Chatman, 1978: 151).⁹¹¹ The Baptist’s voice is once again brought to the attention of the reader so that his activity of witnessing may come to a complete circle (vv. 26-30/31-36; cf. 1:19-36). Blomberg (2001: 95) says that, “As in 1:19-34 (also 1:36), the Fourth Gospel’s theological emphasis seems to counter an over-exaltation of the Baptist. Here John recedes in importance even as Jesus flourishes”.⁹¹² From the abrupt finishing in 1:19-34 (also 1:36), the narrator brings John to his conclusive statement in 3:27-30. After John’s ministry diminishes, Jesus’ ministry is moving toward greater heights (chaps. 4-21; cf. Brodie, 1993: 203-8; Quast, 1991/1996: 26-8).⁹¹³

⁹⁰⁷ The *semantic*, *syntactic*, and *pragmatic* levels of interpretation are at work here (cf. Chandler, 2002/2007: 196; Louw, 1992: 17-30; Louw and Nida, 1989).

⁹⁰⁸ Lindars (1972: 169) says that, “. . . from above takes us back to verses 3 and 7, and is synonymous with from heaven at the end of the verse (cf. v. 27). Both really mean ‘from God’”. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Bruce, 1983: 93-8; Bennema, 2009: 22-30; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61; Carson, 1991: 208-14; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-6.

⁹⁰⁹ A conspicuous *narrator and reader dialogue* is introduced at vv. 31-36 with a view of clarifying the factors. In the *narrator and reader dialogue*, the narrator communicates his conviction about Jesus very strongly and concludes the section with an open *belief-unbelief* conflict (v. 35-36). This sequence inaugurates a new trend in the succeeding episodes of the extended gospel. Broader dialogic phenomena like a ‘from above-from below’ connections through the mediation of Jesus, Jesus’ role as the great testifier, God-Son-Spirit interaction, and Father-Son peculiar dialogue are emphasised within the larger narratorial framework. Cf. Talbert, 1992: 105-10; Köstenberger, 2004: 133-40; Keener, 2003: 574-83; Milne, 1993: 80-2; Brown, 1966: 150-62; Bailey and Vander Broek, 1992: 177.

⁹¹⁰ Tan (1993: 26) says that, “Whereas interactional language expresses solidarity or animosity or any other social relationship between interlocutors for that matter, transactional language gives emphasis to the content-bearing role of language. As such, everyday conversation is more interactional, whilst a lecture is more transactional”. Tan further says that, “Indeed for a long time, the interactional function of language was not deemed important or even not recognised, so that the interest shown in interactional language amongst researchers in conversational analysis, pragmatics and other related fields is something to be welcomed”. In John 3:22-36, while interactional language is expressed through the characterial dialogues, transactional language is used in the narrator’s expressive comments.

⁹¹¹ For more details about the stylistic aspects, refer to Thielman, 1991: 169-83.

⁹¹² See Burge, 2000: 120; Bennema, 2009: 22-30; Stibbe, 1993: 59-61; Bruce, 1983: 93-8; Carson, 1991: 208-14; Barrett, 1978: 219-28; Newman and Nida, 1980: 95-106; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-6; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8.

⁹¹³ Now, Jesus takes full control of the story of the gospel. Cf. Carson, 1991: 208-14; Barrett, 1978: 219-28; Newman and Nida, 1980: 95-106; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Bennema, 2009: 26-7; Bruce, 1983: 93-8.

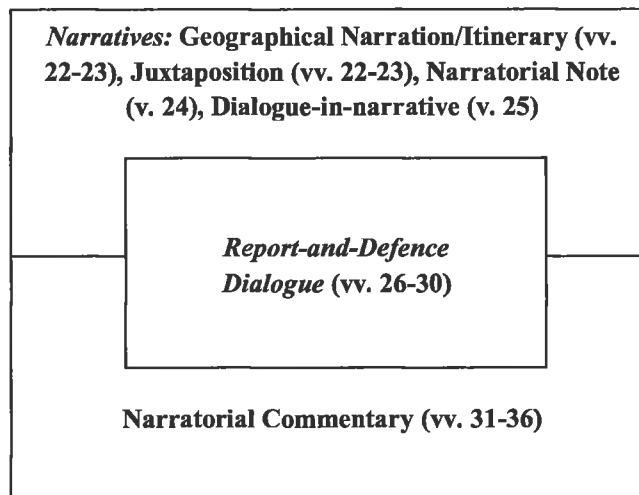


Diagram 19: The placement of the dialogue within the narratorial framework

The dialogues help the reader to understand about the role of John the Baptist as a witness with precision, the characterisation of him in relation to Jesus, his perspectives, and the way he informs his disciples to Jesus.⁹¹⁴ Though Jesus is physically absent, the comparative talk of John the Baptist (vv. 26-30; also the narratorial commentary, vv. 31-36) focuses on Jesus and his increasing mission (vv. 31-36; cf. Tovey, 1997: 148-50; Michaels, 1984/1989: 66-7). The analeptic and proleptic movements of the dialogue help the reader to understand the larger story through narrative echo and foreshadowing. Now the reader is able to recollect the events foregone and to anticipate the increasing mission of Jesus. Moloney (1998: 107; cf. Windisch, 1993: 25-64; Chatman, 1978: 146-9) is of the opinion that, "The narrative of 2:13-3:36 articulates a point of view about how one should respond to Jesus and the fruits of such a response. Using 'the word' of Jesus as the criterion, the story points to the possibility of no faith (2: 13-22: 'the Jews'), partial faith (3:1-21: Nicodemus), and a Johannine belief (3:22-36: John the Baptist) *within the world of Judaism*".⁹¹⁶ The use of various forms of dialogues in an array, like *challenge and riposte* (2:13-22), *pedagogical dialogue to monologue* (3:1-21), and *report and defense* (3:22-36), address diverse faith reactions of the people.⁹¹⁷ After using these dialogic forms and informing about diverse faith reactions of the people, the narrator guides the reader toward another important episode (4:1-42; see Diagram 20).⁹¹⁸

⁹¹⁴ Culpepper (1983: 133) says that, "... he [i.e., John the Baptist] is bridegroom's friend, not the bridegroom himself, not the lamp and not the light. He is not the Christ and he does no signs".

⁹¹⁵ Stibbe (1993: 61; cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 93) finds a lot of narratorial similarities between 3:31-36: *first*, from above (vv. 3, 7; cf. v. 31); *second*, heavenly origins (v. 13; cf. v. 31); *third*, earth/heaven (v. 31); *fourth*, witnessing to what has been seen (3:11; cf. v. 32); *fifth*, failure to receive the testimony (v. 11); *sixth*, the Spirit (v. 8; cf. v. 34); and *seventh*, faith and life (vv. 15, 16; cf. 36).

⁹¹⁶ Cf. Barrett, 1978: 219-28; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8; Carson, 1991: 208-14; Bruce, 1983: 93-8.

⁹¹⁷ Bennema (2009: 27) says that, "... wedding imagery features prominently in the so-called 'from-Cana' section (John 2-4). Against the backdrop of a wedding, Jesus performs a miracle in Cana, indicating the arrival of the new messianic age. Later Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman symbolizes the spiritual betrothal of Israel to the Messiah".

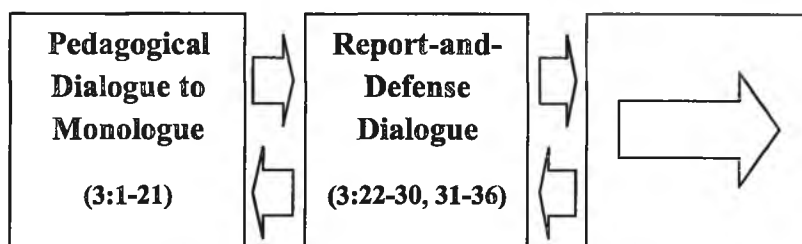


Diagram 20: The placement of the fourth episode

The dialogical episode (3:22-36) is placed after 3:1-21 and before 4:1-42 (see Diagram 20). Köstenberger (2004: 133) says that, “By way of interlude between Jesus’ conversation with Nicodemus and his encounter with the Samaritan woman, the evangelist returns to John the Baptist, whom he had already mentioned in the prologue (1:6-8, 15) and later in the opening chapter (1:19-37)”.⁹¹⁹ By positioning the *report and defense dialogue* between the great discourses of Jesus with Nicodemus and Samaritan woman, the narrator strategically approves Jesus’ authority and utterances through means of an external proof (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 14), i.e., the witnessing activity of John the Baptist (see 3:22-36; cf. 3:1-21; 4:1-42).⁹²⁰

Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
<p>Content: The dialogue and the narratorial commentary reaffirm Messiahship and superiority of Jesus yet another time through the witnessing of John the Baptist // Form: A <i>report-and-defense</i> talk followed by a narratorial commentary, a complaint to a clarification dialogue // Function: The dialogue further informs the reader about the identity of Jesus (i.e., “the Messiah”, “the bridegroom”, “one who has a heavenly ‘voice’”, and “one who is about to increase”). It functions to direct the attention of the reader toward Jesus the Messiah through characterial juxtaposition</p>	<p>The dialogue has a <i>report and defence</i> to <i>narratorial commentary</i> format</p>

Table 24: The summary of the dialogue of the fourth episode

those who believe in him. Hence, the mention of Jesus as bridegroom and the then still unknown bride in 3:29 fits within the nuptial context of John 2-4 and anticipates the story of the Samaritan woman”.

⁹¹⁸ Moloney (1998: 104) says that, “The narrative repeats the shape of 3:1-21. Both have an introduction (vv. 1-2a, 22-24) to a discussion (vv. 2b-12, 25-30) that leads into a discourse (vv. 11-21, 31-36). An interesting feature of 2:1-3:36 emerges. Both 2:1-12 and 2:13-25 were structurally similar, as are 3:1-21 and 3:22-36”.

⁹¹⁹ Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 52-6; Barrett, 1978: 219-28; Newman and Nida, 1980: 95-106; Bruce, 1983: 93-8; Carson, 1991: 208-14; Blomberg, 2001: 95-8.

⁹²⁰ Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 90; cf. Witherington, 1995: 108-12; Keener, 2003: 1: 574-83) say that, “Since many commentators do not treat this section as a parallel scene forming a diptych with the first (3:1-21), they find notorious difficulties of a chronological, historical sort for understanding the development of relationships between Jesus and John the Baptist”. Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 92) also opine that, “John defends Jesus and testifies to the divine origin of his mission”. They (1998: 90; cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 63-7) suggests further that, “Nicodemus, the eminent Pharisee teacher, is . . . contrasted with John, the prophet who baptized”.

Episode Five

An *Inter-Religious Dialogue*⁹²¹ (4:1-42)

The story moves forward from the Judean country-side in chap. 3 to the Samaritan country-side in chap. 4 (cf. Overman and Green, 1992: 3: 1037-54; Maniparampil, 2004: 219-20). John 4:1-42 is one of the longest dialogues in the gospel, and the expression ‘Jesus *learned* that the Pharisees had *heard*’ (v. 1) explains the way Jesus’ news was a matter of social discourse.

5.1. Setting and Dialogue Text

The *central setting* (4:1-6)⁹²² of the episode begins as the narrator reports that Jesus *learned* (ἐγνώ) and Pharisees had *heard* (ἤκουσαν), in 4:1a. The Pharisees hear of Jesus and make an evaluative talk about him and John the Baptist: Ἰησοῦς πλείονας μαθητὰς ποιεῖ καὶ βαπτίζει ἢ Ἰωάννης (v. 1b; cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 164-75).⁹²³ Beasley-Murray (1987: 59) says that, “The setting is provided in the introductory paragraph of vv. 1-6. The Pharisees learn of the extraordinary success of Jesus in his preaching and baptizing ministry (1-2). This causes Jesus to withdraw from Judea to Galilee, presumably to avoid a conflict which could lead to a premature end to his ministry”.⁹²⁴ The narrator is now correcting the Pharisaic hearing about ‘Jesus as a Baptist’ (4: 1; cf. 3:22) by way of a narratorial aside: “although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized” (v. 2; cf. Borchert, 1996: 197-8).⁹²⁵ In vv. 3-4, the narrator reports the itinerary of Jesus as follows: *first*, he *left* Judea (ἔφηκεν) and *started back* to Galilee (ἀπῆλθεν πάλιν, cf. Moloney, 1998: 115),⁹²⁶ and

⁹²¹ It is more appropriate to call this a *Samaritan-Eternal life perspectival dialogue* rather than calling it a *Jewish-Samaritan dialogue* on the following grounds: *first*, seemingly it is a Jewish-Samaritan dialogue, but the presentation of Jesus as the Messiah is peculiarly ‘a new approach’ in essence; *second*, the thematic prominence of “eternal life”, “believing”, and “knowing” are presented with new outlook; and *third*, the story does not present Jesus as a messenger of Judaism, but rather as a messenger with a different message and one who displeases the Jewish authorities.

⁹²² Gray (1999: 599) divides the entire episode under three questions: “What reason is assigned for Jesus’ departure from Judea at this time (4:1-3)? Whence did He journey, and what route did He take (vv. 3-4)? What exhibition of grace was associated with this journey (vv. 5-42)?”

⁹²³ Köstenberger (2004: 145) observes that, “John’s is the only Gospel that tells us of the baptizing ministries of Jesus and his disciples. ‘So’ (οὕτως) loosely connects this passage to the previous section. The reference to Jesus’ knowledge (ἐγνώ) is a recurring Johannine theme”.

⁹²⁴ Jesus is “under the ‘law of the hour’ which the Father has fixed for him”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 59; Morris, 1995: 222; Brown, 1966: 164-9; Tenney, 1994: 307; Culpepper, 1983: 22; Keener, 2003: 587-8.

⁹²⁵ Moloney (1998: 115-6) says that, “The real problem is found in the troublesome v. 2. It is often regarded as an addition to the original Gospel, given its apparent denial of 3:22 and 4:1, but what is at stake is a proliferation of baptizers!”

⁹²⁶ Moloney (1998: 115) makes it clear that, “In 4:1-6 Jesus moves away from Judea on a journey to Galilee via Samaria. The motivations are given for Jesus’ departure from Judea (v. 1) and for his presence in Samaria (v. 4). The time and place of the encounters that will fill vv. 7-42 are provided (vv. 5-6)”.

second, he had to *go through* Samaria (διέρχουσαι διὰ, cf. Dar, 1992: 5: 926-31; William: Evans, 2000: 1056-61).⁹²⁷ In v. 5a the narrator mentions that Jesus *came to* (ἔρχεται) the Sa city called Sychar (cf. Zdravko, 1992: 3: 608-9; Kok, 2010: 173-6).⁹²⁸ Stibbe (1993: 62) i opinion that, “. . . we have an itinerary fragment. This recalls and qualifies the itinerary fr in 3:22. As such, a sense of closure is evoked before the change in setting in 4:4, where w to Samaria”.⁹²⁹ In vv. 5b-6, the narrator invites the reader’s attention toward the specific d the location and time of the central dialogue: *first*, it was near the plot of ground (πλῆθος χωρίου) that Jacob had given to his son Joseph (cf. Zdravko, 1992: 3: 608-9; Michaels, 198 69); *second*, Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the v Bartholomä, 2010: 95; Reinhartz, 1994: 572);⁹³⁰ and *third*, it was about noon (ὥρα ἦν ὡς ἡ Mathews, 2009: 5-6; Kok, 2010: 173-6).⁹³¹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 59; cf. Borchert, 199 203)⁹³² opines that, “The arrival at Jacob’s well (5-6) sets the stage for the meeting of Jes the woman of Sychar and the developments that ensue from it”.⁹³³ In v. 7a, a Samaritan came to draw water, and, in v. 7b, Jesus begins the central dialogue (vv. 7b-26; i.e., Slot #1)

The episode begins and ends at an *architectural* setting (vv. 7-42; cf. Resseguie, 2005: McHugh, 2009: 263-7),⁹³⁴ i.e., the central setting of the event (cf. vv. 1-6 and vv. 40-42), b

⁹²⁷ Keener (2003: 588) says that, “A number of scholars have proposed a Samaritan or partly Samaritan conte Fourth Gospel. Although a fully Samaritan context is unlikely, a Galilean interest in the Samaritan mission given its successes (Acts 8:12-17, 25); thus a Johannine interest in the subject is likely”. Also see Köstenberg 146; Brown, 1966: 164-5; Tenney, 1994: 307.

⁹²⁸ Keener (2003: 590) says that, “‘Sychar’ has long been identified with modern ‘Askar’, about 1.5 kilomet east of Jacob’s well, though Shechem was closer to the well. Because Shechem was closer, some commentat that town, quite small in this period, as the site of Sychar; Shechem is probably the site of the Samaritan conv Acts 8”. Cf. Brant, 2011: 82-3; Tenney, 1994: 307; Carson, 1991: 214-7.

⁹²⁹ Keener (2003: 589) records the events as follows: “Jesus left Judea, the place of hostility, for Galilee (4: had received his ministry far more hospitably Jesus proves safe in Samaria, as in Galilee, is received hos both places (4:40, 45), and both group believe in Jesus (4:42, 53; 6:14)”. Also see Carson, 1991: 214-5.

⁹³⁰ Moloney (1998: 116) says that, “Although there is some debate over the exact location of Sychar, the description of the city, ‘near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph’ (v. 5) introduces biblical and Jewish t the gift of water that Jacob gave (cf. Gen 48:22; cf. also Gen 33:19; Josh 24:32)”. See Köstenberger, 20 Tenney, 1994: 307; Keener, 2003: 590-1; Brown, 1966: 164-9.

⁹³¹ Köstenberger (2004: 146) says that, “‘About the sixth hour’ means around noon if reckoning from the st day at sunrise. There is a possible contrast between the time of day at which Jesus met the Samaritan woma time of Nicodemus’s visit (noon versus night)”. See Witherington, 1995: 120; Barrett, 1978: 231; Moloney, 1 121; Bultmann, 1971: 178; Burge, 2000: 139; Conway, 1999: 106; contra Borchert, 1996: 201.

⁹³² Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 175; Lindars, 1990: 174-6; Haenchen, 1980: 252-6; Cullman, 1976: 48, 90.

⁹³³ Bennema (2009: 87; cf. Ashton, 1994: 198) states that, “The reader may wonder why John includes so ma in 4:5-7a. Most scholars have recognised that, by drawing attention to the patriarchs, a well and a woman, Jol to evoke an Old Testament betrothal type scene, such as we find in Gen 24 (Abraham’s servant [on behalf and Rebekah), Gen 29 (Jacob and Rachel) and Exo 2:15-22 (Moses and Zipporah)”. Cf. Culpepper, 1983: 13 1993: 68; Botha, 1991: 109-12; Keener, 2003: 586.

⁹³⁴ The well of Jacob introduced here has symbolical significance. Resseguie (2005: 103-4; cf. Quast, 1991/ Vincent, 1969: 112) says that, “The well in John is the setting for a different type of fount. Jacob’s well at ti Mount Gerizim near the village of Sychar sustained life for generations (4:1-42). Yet human-made well essential for life, have several limitations. Jacob’s well is ‘deep’ and requires a special container, a bucket or

dialogue progresses the narrator leads the reader through various other minor settings by way of interludes. Talbert (1992: 111) observes that, “In scene one (vv. 7-26) the woman comes to the well (front stage); the disciples go to the city (back stage); Jesus converses with the woman (front stage)”. While the first slot (vv. 7-26) remains as the general setting,⁹³⁵ the second slot (v. 27) introduces an interlude. The setting of the second slot is described as follows: disciples entered the stage (ἦλθαν) and they became astonished (ἐθαύμαζον) to see that Jesus was speaking with a woman.⁹³⁶ Here new characters enter the stage and the dialogue scene changes. In the third slot (v. 28-30), the setting moves away from *the well* to the Samaritan woman’s city: the woman left (ἀφῆκεν) her water jar (τὴν ὑδρίαν); went back (ἀπῆλθεν) to the city (εἰς τὴν πόλιν); and dialogues with the people (τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 68-71; Bartholomä, 2010: 95).⁹³⁷ In the fourth slot (vv. 31-38), the setting is again at the well but the interlocutors are Jesus and the disciples (cf. Bernard, 1929: 1: 153).⁹³⁸ In the fifth slot (vv. 39-42), the reader is able to view a procession of the Samaritans coming toward the well in response to the woman’s invitation (see Williamson and Evans, 2000: 1056-61; see Table 25). The narrator introduces inferences of dialogues in v. 40 and in v. 41: the Samaritans make a request to Jesus in order to stay with them and he stays and they believe after Jesus’ word (cf. Borchert, 1996: 215). These are examples of narratorial abbreviations of dialogues within the episode. Keener (2003: 584) is of the opinion that, “This extended narrative contrasts starkly with the Nicodemus narrative. There a religious teacher in Israel proved unable to understand Jesus’ message (3:10); here a sinful Samaritan woman not only received the message, but brought it to her entire Samaritan town (4:28-29, 39-42)”. The above mentioned factors and settings frame the final statement of the Samaritans to the woman in v. 42 (cf. Borchert, 1996: 215; Windisch, 1993: 29-32).⁹³⁹

Slots	Episode 5: John 4:1-42 (See the notes on each slots) ⁹⁴⁰
Slot # 1 ⁹⁴¹	<p><i>Jesus</i> (to Samaritan woman): Δός μοι πεῖν</p> <p><i>Woman</i>: Πῶς σὺ Ἰουδαῖος ὢν παρ’ ἐμοῦ πεῖν αἰτεῖς γυναικὸς Σαμαρίτιδος οὖσης;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Εἰ ἤδεις τὴν δωρεὰν τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ τίς ἐστὶν ὁ λέγων σοι, Δός μοι πεῖν, σὺ ἂν ᾔτησας αὐτὸν καὶ ἔδωκεν ἄν σοι ὕδωρ ζῶν</p> <p><i>Woman</i>: Κύριε, οὐτε ἀντλημα ἔχεις καὶ τὸ φρέαρ ἐστὶν βαθύ· πόθεν οὖν ἔχεις τὸ ὕδωρ τὸ ζῶν; μὴ σὺ μείζων εἶ τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν Ἰακώβ, ὃς ἔδωκεν ἡμῖν τὸ φρέαρ καὶ αὐτὸς ἐξ</p>

to retrieve its thirst-quenching water (4:11)”. Here Jesus’ life-giving water is contrasted with the water from the well of Jacob.

⁹³⁵ Cf. Barrett, 1978: 228-39; Keener, 2003: 587-601; Carson, 1991: 214-27; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 58-62.

⁹³⁶ Moloney (1998: 113) states that, “The *time sequence* of the narrative is linear. As the disciples go to buy food (v. 8), Jesus talks with a Samaritan woman. As the disciples come back she returns to the village (v. 28), and her fellow villagers begin to come toward Jesus (v. 30)”. Cf. Keener, 2003: 587-601; Köstenberger, 2004: 158-9.

⁹³⁷ Beasley-Murray (1987: 63-64) says that, “The woman left her jar—in haste, and because she intended to come back at once with others!” See Carson, 1991: 227-8; Barrett, 1978: 240; Kanagaraj, 2005: 153-4.

⁹³⁸ Borchert (1996: 211) says that, “In good literary fashion the evangelist returned to his other story—the problem of the disciples’ perception, which was introduced in v. 27. John was a master at weaving two stories into a single unit”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 58-62; Köstenberger, 2004: 160-4; Keener, 2003: 587-601.

⁹³⁹ See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 64-6; Carson, 1991: 231-3; Barrett, 1978: 243; Köstenberger, 2004: 163-5.

⁹⁴⁰ Between the dialogues the narrator provides necessary information for the sake of episodic development.

⁹⁴¹ In slot # 1, vv. 1a, 2-6, 7a, 8-9a, 9c, and 10a, 11a, 13a, 15a, 16a, 17a, 17b, 19a, 21a, 25a, and 26a are controlled by the narrator. The rest of the sections are filled with characterial utterances.

	<p>αὐτοῦ ἐπὶεν καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ τὰ θρέμματα αὐτοῦ;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Πᾶς ὁ πίνων ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος τούτου διψήσει πάλιν· ὃς δ' ἂν πίῃ ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος ἐγὼ δώσω αὐτῷ, οὐ μὴ διψήσει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, ἀλλὰ τὸ ὕδωρ ὃ δώσω αὐτῷ γενήσεται αὐτῷ πηγὴ ὕδατος ἀλλομένου εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον</p> <p><i>Woman</i>: Κύριε, δός μοι τοῦτο τὸ ὕδωρ, ἵνα μὴ διψῶ μηδὲ διέρχωμαι ἐνθάδε ἀντλεῖν</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ὑπαγε φώνησον τὸν ἄνδρα σου καὶ ἐλθέ ἐνθάδε</p> <p><i>Woman</i>: Οὐκ ἔχω ἄνδρα</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Καλῶς εἶπας ὅτι ἄνδρα οὐκ ἔχω· πέντε γὰρ ἄνδρας ἔσχες καὶ νῦν ὃν ἔχεις ἔστιν σου ἀνὴρ· τοῦτο ἀληθὲς εἶρηκας</p> <p><i>Woman</i>: Κύριε, θεωρῶ ὅτι προφήτης εἶ σύ. οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν ἐν τῷ ὄρει τούτῳ προσεκύνησαν· καὶ ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις ἐστὶν ὁ τόπος ὅπου προσκυνεῖν</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Πίστευέ μοι, γύναι, ὅτι ἔρχεται ὥρα ὅτε οὔτε ἐν τῷ ὄρει τούτῳ οὔτε ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις προσκυνήσετε τῷ πατρὶ. ὑμεῖς προσκυνεῖτε ὃ οὐκ οἴδατε· ἡμεῖς προσκυνῶμεν, ὅτι ἡ σωτηρία ἐκ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἐστίν. ἀλλὰ ἔρχεται ὥρα καὶ νῦν ἐστίν, ἀληθινοὶ προσκυνῶνται προσκυνήσουσιν τῷ πατρὶ ἐν πνεύματι καὶ ἀληθείᾳ· καὶ γὰρ πατὴρ τοιοῦτους ζητεῖ τοὺς προσκυνούντας αὐτόν. πνεῦμα ὁ θεός, καὶ τοὺς προσκυνεῖν αὐτόν ἐν πνεύματι καὶ ἀληθείᾳ δεῖ προσκυνεῖν</p> <p><i>Woman</i>: Οἶδα ὅτι Μεσσίας ἔρχεται ὃ λεγόμενος Χριστός· ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐκεῖνος, ἀναγγεήμιν ἅπαντα</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἐγὼ εἰμι, ὃ λαλῶν σοι</p>
Slot # 2 ⁹⁴²	<i>No one said</i> : Τί ζητεῖς or Τί λαλεῖς μετ' αὐτῆς;
Slot # 3 ⁹⁴³	<i>Woman (to the people)</i> : Δεῦτε ἴδετε ἄνθρωπον ὃς εἶπέν μοι πάντα ὅσα ἐποίησα, μήτι ἐστὶν ὁ Χριστός;
Slot # 4 ⁹⁴⁴	<p><i>Disciples (to Jesus)</i>: Ῥαββί, φάγε</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἐγὼ βρώσιν ἔχω φαγεῖν ἢν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε</p> <p><i>Disciples (one another)</i>: Μή τις ἤνεγκεν αὐτῷ φαγεῖν;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἐμὸν βρώμᾳ ἐστὶν ἵνα ποιήσω τὸ θέλημα τοῦ πέμψαντός με καὶ τελειώσω αὐτὸ ἔργον. οὐχ ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι Ἔτι τετράμηνός ἐστιν καὶ ὁ θερισμός ἔρχεται; ἰδοὺ λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐπάρατε τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ὑμῶν καὶ θεάσασθε τὰς χώρας ὅτι λευκαὶ εἰσιν πρὸς θερισμόν. ἤδη ὁ θερίζων μισθὸν λαμβάνει καὶ συνάγει καρπὸν εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον, ἡ σπείρων ὁμοῦ χαίρει καὶ ὁ θερίζων. ἐν γὰρ τούτῳ ὁ λόγος ἐστὶν ἀληθινός ὅτι Ἄλλος ἐστὶν ὁ σπείρων καὶ ἄλλος ὁ θερίζων. ἐγὼ ἀπέστειλα ὑμᾶς θερίζειν ὃ οὐχ ὑμεῖς κεκοπιάκατε· ἄλλοι κεκοπιάκασιν καὶ ὑμεῖς εἰς τὸν κόπον αὐτῶν εἰσεληλύθατε.</p>
Slot # 5 ⁹⁴⁵	<p><i>Woman (testifies/memory)</i>: Εἶπέν μοι πάντα ἃ ἐποίησα</p> <p><i>Samaritans (to the woman)</i>: ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ σωτὴρ τοῦ κόσμου</p>

Table 25: The dialogue text of 4:1-42

⁹⁴² Slot # 2 can be considered as a narratorial interlude.

⁹⁴³ Slot # 3 introduces a different setting; it is filled with a little narratorial (v. 28), a little monologue (v. 29), another little narratorial (v. 30).

⁹⁴⁴ Slot # 4 has narratorial remarks at vv. 31a, 32a, 33a, and 34a. The little dialogue and the subsequent monologue are interlocked with the narratorial.

⁹⁴⁵ Slot # 5 has a narratorial section at vv. 39-42a followed by a monologue in v. 42b.

5.2. Micro-Analysis

5.2.1. Slot One (the Central Slot; 4:1-26)

The content, form, and function of Jesus' dialogue with the Samaritan woman can properly be understood only when we analyse the episode in comparison to the Nicodemus episode (cf. Kermode, 1987: 450-1).⁹⁴⁶ Neyrey (2007: 88) is right when he says that, "The best reading of chapters 3 and 4 occurs when they are radically compared and contrasted". In the comparison, the following contrasts are explicit: *first*, Nicodemus' conversation *at night* vs. woman's conversation *at noon* (cf. Mathews, 2009: 8); *second*, Nicodemus as an *Israelite* vs. woman as a *Samaritan* (cf. Morris, 1995: 225); *third*, Nicodemus being male vs. the woman being female; *fourth*, Nicodemus' *noble heritage* vs. the woman's *shameful past* (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 136); *fifth*, Nicodemus as a *religious teacher* vs. the woman as a *Samaritan religious devotee*; and *sixth*, Nicodemus as *impervious to learning* vs. the woman's *progressive learning* (cf. Lindars, 1972: 172-4; Keener, 2003: 584-5). The role of Jesus in the two stories can be contrasted in the following way: Jesus as a *teacher from above* in the discourse with Nicodemus vs. Jesus as a *prophet* and *Messiah* in the Samaritan woman's discourse (see Neyrey, 2007: 88; Mathews, 2009: 1). These distinctions help the reader to properly discriminate between the two dialogues. Now, we will analyse the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 32-6) in detail. The development of the first slot (vv. 7-26) of the episode is outlined in Table 26.

John 4:1-26	Overview
<p>v.1: Ὡς οὖν ἔγνω ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι ἤκουσαν οἱ Φαρισαῖοι ὅτι Ἰησοῦς πλείονας μαθητὰς ποιεῖ καὶ βαπτίζει ἢ Ἰωάννης</p> <p>v.2: - καίτοιγε Ἰησοῦς αὐτὸς οὐκ ἐβάπτισεν ἀλλ' οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ -</p> <p>v.3: ἀφῆκεν τὴν Ἰουδαίαν καὶ ἀπῆλθεν πάλιν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν.</p> <p>v.4: Ἔδει δὲ αὐτὸν διέρχεσθαι διὰ τῆς Σαμαρείας.</p> <p>v.5: Ἐρχεται οὖν εἰς πόλιν τῆς Σαμαρείας λεγομένην Συχάρ πλησίον τοῦ χωρίου ὃ ἔδωκεν Ἰακώβ [τῷ] Ἰωσήφ τῷ υἱῷ αὐτοῦ.</p> <p>v.6: ἦν δὲ ἐκεῖ πηγὴ τοῦ Ἰακώβ. ὁ οὖν Ἰησοῦς κεκοπιακῶς ἐκ τῆς ὁδοπορίας ἐκαθέζετο οὕτως ἐπὶ τῇ πηγῇ ὥρα ἦν ὡς ἕκτη.</p> <p>v.7: Ἐρχεται γυνὴ ἐκ τῆς Σαμαρείας ἀντλησάτις ὕδωρ. λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Δός μοι πεῖν.</p> <p>v.8: οἱ γὰρ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἀπεληλύθεισαν εἰς τὴν πόλιν ἵνα τροφὰς ἀγοράσωσιν.</p> <p>v.9: λέγει οὖν αὐτῇ ἡ γυνὴ ἡ Σαμαρίτις, Πῶς σὺ Ἰουδαῖος ὢν παρ' ἐμοῦ πεῖν αἰτεῖς γυναικὸς Σαμαρίτιδος οὕσης; οὐ γὰρ συγχρῶνται Ἰουδαῖοι Σαμαρίταις.</p> <p>v.10: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ, Εἰ ᾔδεις τὴν δωρεάν τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ τίς ἐστὶν ὁ λέγων σοι, Δός μοι πεῖν, σὺ ἂν ᾔτησας αὐτὸν καὶ ἔδωκεν ἄν σοι ὕδωρ ζῶν.</p> <p>v.11: λέγει αὐτῇ [ἡ γυνή], Κύριε, οὐτε ἀντλημα ἔχεις καὶ τὸ φρέαρ ἐστὶν βαθύ· πόθεν οὖν ἔχεις τὸ ὕδωρ τὸ ζῶν;</p> <p>v.12: μὴ σὺ μείζων εἶ τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν Ἰακώβ, ὃς ἔδωκεν ἡμῖν τὸ φρέαρ καὶ αὐτὸς ἐξ αὐτοῦ ἔπιεν καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ τὰ θρέμματα αὐτοῦ;</p> <p>v.13: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ, Πᾶς ὁ πίνων ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος τούτου διψήσει πάλιν.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue at 4:1-26 is comprised of thirteen utterance units (vv. 7b, 9b, 10, 11-12, 13-14, 15, 16, 17a, 17b-18, 19-20, 21-24, 25, and 26); out of the thirteen utterance units seven are of Jesus (vv. 7b, 10, 13-14, 16, 17b-18, 21-24, and 26) and six of the Samaritan woman (vv. 9b, 11-12, 15, 17a, 19-20, and 25);</p> <p>(2) The dialogue at 4:1-26 begins by the help of a narratorial background (vv. 1-6);</p> <p>(3) John 4:1-26 is the central slot of the five-</p>

⁹⁴⁶ See more details about Samaritans in other passages of the NT (cf. Luke 10:25-37; Acts 8:4-5; cf. Joy, 2012: 144-52).

<p>v.14: δς δ' ἂν πίη ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος οὗ ἐγὼ δώσω αὐτῷ, οὐ μὴ διψῇ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, ἀλλὰ τὸ ὕδωρ ὃ δώσω αὐτῷ γενήσεται ἐν αὐτῷ πηγὴ ὕδατος ἀλλομένου εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον.</p> <p>v.15: λέγει πρὸς αὐτὸν ἡ γυνή, Κύριε, δός μοι τοῦτο τὸ ὕδωρ, ἵνα μὴ διψῶ μηδὲ διέρχωμαι ἐνθάδε ἀντλεῖν.</p> <p>v.16: Λέγει αὐτῇ, Ὑπαγε φώνησον τὸν ἄνδρα σου καὶ ἐλθε ἐνθάδε.</p> <p>v.17: ἀπεκρίθη ἡ γυνή καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Οὐκ ἔχω ἄνδρα. λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Καλῶς εἶπας ὅτι ἄνδρα οὐκ ἔχω.</p> <p>v.18: πέντε γὰρ ἄνδρας ἔσχες καὶ νῦν ὃν ἔχεις οὐκ ἔστιν σου ἀνὴρ· τοῦτο ἀληθὲς εἶρηκας.</p> <p>v.19: λέγει αὐτῷ ἡ γυνή, Κύριε, θεωρῶ ὅτι προφήτης εἶ σύ.</p> <p>v.20: οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν ἐν τῷ ὄρει τοῦτῳ προσεκύνησαν· καὶ ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις ἐστὶν ὁ τόπος ὅπου προσκυνεῖν δεῖ.</p> <p>v.21: λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Πίστευέ μοι, γύναι, ὅτι ἔρχεται ὥρα ὅτε οὔτε ἐν τῷ ὄρει τοῦτῳ οὔτε ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις προσκυνήσετε τῷ πατρί.</p> <p>v.22: ὑμεῖς προσκυνεῖτε ὃ οὐκ οἴδατε· ἡμεῖς προσκυνοῦμεν ὃ οἴδαμεν, ὅτι ἡ σωτηρία ἐκ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἐστίν.</p> <p>v.23: ἀλλὰ ἔρχεται ὥρα καὶ νῦν ἐστίν, ὅτε οἱ ἀληθινοὶ προσκυνηταὶ προσκυνήσουσιν τῷ πατρὶ ἐν πνεύματι καὶ ἀληθείᾳ· καὶ γὰρ ὁ πατὴρ τοιοῦτους ζητεῖ τοὺς προσκυνοῦντας αὐτόν.</p> <p>v.24: πνεῦμα ὃ θεός, καὶ τοὺς προσκυνοῦντας αὐτὸν ἐν πνεύματι καὶ ἀληθείᾳ δεῖ προσκυνεῖν.</p> <p>v.25: λέγει αὐτῷ ἡ γυνή, Οἶδα ὅτι Μεσσίας ἔρχεται ὁ λεγόμενος Χριστός· ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐκεῖνος, ἀναγγελεῖ ἡμῖν ᅐπαντα.</p> <p>v.26: λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἐγὼ εἰμι, ὃ λαλῶν σοι.</p>	<p>slot episode;</p> <p>(4) The reference 'baptism' and the comparison between Jesus and John the Baptist (vv. 1-3) is readers backward dialogue leading to narratorial comment at 3: 22-36;</p> <p>(5) The narrative slot are arranged following way: primary narrative (vv. 1-7) formula narrative 7b, 9a, 10a, 11a, 15a, 16a, 17a, 17b, 21a, 25a, and 26a narrative asides (9b, and 25b).</p>
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Table 26: The dialogue of 4:1-26 within the narratorial framework

The dialogue in 4:7-26 has 13 utterance units, seven of which are from the mouth of Jesus (vv. 10, 13-14, 16, 17b-18, 21-24, and 26) and six from the Samaritan woman (vv. 9, 11-12, 19-20, and 25; see Table 26). Out of the thirteen utterances, ten are addressed as λέγει Ἰησοῦς, vv. 7b, 16a, 17b, 21a, 26a; and five of the woman, 9a, 11a, 15a, 19a, 25a) and three are addressed with the narratorial construction ἀπεκρίθη . . . εἶπεν (two of Jesus, vv. 10a, 17a, and one of the woman, v. 17a). According to Beasley-Murray (1987: 59; cf. Dodd, 1960: 313; O'Day, 1986: 130-36), "After the introduction in vv. 1-6 we have in 7-26 the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman. This contains two distinct themes; in 6-18 the living water from the well, and in 19-26 the worship that the Father seeks". But a careful reading will lead us to identify three themes; in vv. 6-15 the living water, in 16-19 the woman's personal identity, and in 20-26 the worship (i.e., *water*, *woman*, and *worship*; cf. Dodd, 1960: 313). The first slot, as a whole, begins with the utterances of Jesus (v. 7 and v. 26; cf. Table 26). All these syntactic details are contributive toward the semantics of the story.

In vv. 7-26, Jesus takes initiative to begin the dialogue by way of a request, Δός μοι ὕδωρ (v. 7b).⁹⁴⁷ The very request surprises his counterpart and she asks Πῶς σὺ Ἰουδαῖος ὢν πε

⁹⁴⁷ Namitha (2000: 123) says that, "The dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman starts with an exchange of conversation, of Jesus asking her for water. The divine-human encounter is taking place in the very midst of her problems and ordinary circumstances of life".

πεῖν αἰτεῖς γυναικὸς Σαμαρίτιδος οὔσης (v. 9a).⁹⁴⁸ The unusual request of the Ἰουδαῖος brings a cultural shock⁹⁴⁹ for the Σαμαρίτιδος. Keener (2003: 585; cf. Namitha, 2000: 126; Ashton, 1994: 47) observes that, “Jesus crosses at least three significant barriers in the story: the socioethnic barrier of centuries of Jewish-Samaritan prejudice; the gender barrier; and a moral barrier imposed by this woman’s assumed behaviour”. All these barriers dynamically contribute toward the characterisation of the story in order to place Jesus over against the ‘other’ for effective dialogical formulations (see the contrast in Table 27).⁹⁵⁰ Jesus’ response to the woman in v. 10 points out her lack of knowledge in the following factors: about the gift of God (τὴν δωρεάν τοῦ θεοῦ, cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 100; Maccini, 1994: 35-46),⁹⁵¹ about the one who asks her ‘Give me a drink’ (τίς ἐστίν ὁ λέγων σοι, Δός μοι πεῖν), and about the living water (ὑδὼρ ζῶν, cf. Namitha, 2000: 123; Quast, 1991/1996: 33).⁹⁵²

Jesus	Samaritan woman
Stranger, Jew	Native, Samaritan
Male	Female
One who asks for a drink, but can provide living water	One who came to draw water, but never heard about living water
Not concerned of physical bucket and well	Much concerned of physical bucket and well
Provider of living water, the gift of God	Satisfied with the water from the well of ancestor Jacob
One who is greater than ancestor Jacob	One who is doubtful: “Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob?”
One who can provide water that makes people never thirsty again	One who drinks of ‘this water’
Provider of water gushing up to eternal life	Concerned of water for ‘this life’
One who reveals the mysteries	One who is misunderstanding
One who prophesies the secrets	One who keeps secrets
Emphasizes the importance of Jerusalem as a place of worship	One whose forefathers worshipped on ‘this mountain’
One who is the hero of faith	One who is asked to believe
One who worship what he knows	One who worship what she does not know
Salvation is from the Jews, he is part of the community	Salvation is not from the Samaritans, she is part of the

⁹⁴⁸ Lindars (1972: 179-8) says that, “the situation is reminiscent of the meeting of Abraham’s servant with Rebekah (Gen 24:10-27) and of Jacob with Rachel (Gen 29:1-12), but there is no hint of literary allusion”. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 102-4; Blomberg, 2001: 99-100; Barrett, 1978: 231-2; Carson, 1991: 217; Bennema, 2009: 87-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 60; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-3.

⁹⁴⁹ Here, the narrator ironically describes that the native woman was ‘culturally shocked’ by the request of the stranger.

⁹⁵⁰ Quast (1991/1996: 32) states that, “Not only did Jews go out of their way to avoid Samaritans, but the rabbis taught that Jewish men were not to greet women in public. Jesus did not share this perspective”.

⁹⁵¹ Wallace (1996: 218) describes that, “. . . in John 4:10 Jesus introduces to the woman at the well the concept of living water (ὑδὼρ ζῶν). In v. 11 the woman refers to the water, saying, ‘Where, then, do you keep *the* living water?’ (πόθεν οὖν ἔχεις τὸ ὑδὼρ τὸ ζῶν). The force of the article here could be translated, ‘Where do you keep *this* living water of which you just spoke?’” Carson (1991: 218; cf. Odeberg, 1968 [1929]: 150) says that, “The ‘gift of God’ that she does not recognise is probably the eternal life that only Jesus can bestow. Alternatively, Jesus is making use of Jewish categories, where the supreme ‘gift of God’ is the Torah”.

⁹⁵² Kanagaraj (2005: 144) is of the opinion that, “The very nature of God is to give everything that is needed for human life, both physical and spiritual. The important gift that the woman, and indeed every human being, needs is eternal life. This is expressed metaphorically as ‘living water’”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 233; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 60; Bruce, 1983: 103-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 113-5; Bennema, 2009: 87-8; Blomberg, 2001: 99-100; Carson, 1991: 217-9; Maniparampil, 2004: 226-7.

	community
Emphasizes worshipping the Father in spirit and truth	Worshipping on 'this mountain'
'Messiah', 'I am'	Waiting for the Messiah

Table 27: The characterisation of Samaritan woman and Jesus

In her second response (vv. 11-12), the woman reveals not only of her lack of knowledge but also of her misunderstanding nature. She fails to understand what Jesus utters in v. 10 (cf. Wallace 2018). Jesus speaks the 'higher spiritual truths', but she thinks only in terms of the 'lower natural things'.⁹⁵³ Expressions and questions, like "you have no bucket" (οὔτε ἄντλημα ἔχεις), "the deep" (τὸ φρέαρ ἐστὶν βαθύ), "where do you get that living water?" (πόθεν οὖν ἔχεις τὸ ὕδωρ;), and "are you greater than our ancestor Jacob?" (μὴ σὺ μείζων εἶ τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν; cf. Ashton, 1994: 46-7; Culpepper, 1983: 136),⁹⁵⁴ reveal her parochial understanding of things.⁹⁵⁵ Jesus' response in vv. 13-14 clearly distinguishes between the water of Jacob's well and the water that he provides. While those who drink from the water in Jacob's thirst again become thirsty (πίνων ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος τούτου διψήσει πάλιν),⁹⁵⁶ those who drink the water that Jesus provides will never be thirsty again (ὅς δ' ἂν πίη ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος οὗ ἐγὼ δώσω αὐτῷ, οὐ μὴ διψήσει αἰῶνα, cf. Lindars, 1972: 183; Dodd, 1960: 311-3).⁹⁵⁷ Then Jesus talks about how the water he gives connects the drinkers to eternal life (ἀλλὰ τὸ ὕδωρ ὃ δώσω αὐτῷ γενήσεται ἐν αὐτῷ ὕδατος ἀλλομένου εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον).⁹⁵⁸ The woman's lack of knowledge and misunderstanding is further revealed through her statement in v. 15: Κύριε, δός μοι τοῦτο τὸ ὕδωρ, ἵνα μὴ διέρχωμαι ἐνθάδε ἀντλεῖν (cf. Dods, 1961: 726; Brant, 2011: 85).⁹⁵⁹ All these factors reveal how the *above* and *below conflict* continually overshadow the dialogue scene.

⁹⁵³ Namitha (2000: 123) states that, "The woman raised her reasonable doubt again: 'You have no bucket, and it is deep. Where do you get that living water?' (4:11). By trusting in her own religious source she asked, 'Are you greater than our father Jacob?' (4:12). Looking from the natural grounds, her doubts and questions are reasonable. But Jesus takes her again beyond the natural level . . ."

⁹⁵⁴ Carson (1991: 219) is of the view that, "There is no Old Testament record of Jacob digging this well. Pilgrimage belongs to tradition associated with the account of Jacob's move to the Shechem area (Gen 33:18-20). So he wondered why Jacob should have dug a well here at all, since several fine springs are but a short distance away."

⁹⁵⁵ Bruce (1983: 104) says that, "The woman's failure to comprehend Jesus' words about living water is comparable to Nicodemus' failure to comprehend his words about the new birth (John 3:4)". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 234; Bennema, 2009: 87-8; Carson, 1991: 219-20; Newman and Nida, 1980: 115-6; Blomberg, 2001:100; Bruce, 1983: 104-5.

⁹⁵⁶ Wallace (1996: 621) says that, "It may be that the evangelist does have a habitual idea in mind (as with the gnomic). The present participle is contrasted with the aorist subjunctive of the following verse, as if to say 'who continually drinks, but whoever should taste . . .'"

⁹⁵⁷ Bruce (1983: 106) says that, "If the stranger can really do what he says, then certainly he is greater than Jacob. The woman's thought continues to move on the mundane plane; she still imagines that Jesus is talking about water and bodily thirst". See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 61; Barrett, 1978: 234-5; Bennema, 2009: 87-8; Blomberg, 2001:100; Newman and Nida, 1980: 115-6; Carson, 1991: 220; Bruce, 1983: 105-6.

⁹⁵⁸ In order to understand the theme of "eternal life" in the Gospel of John, refer to Johnson, 1992: 469-71; Carson, 1991: 169-70; Van der Watt, 2011: 109-40.

⁹⁵⁹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 61) says that, "The woman's misunderstanding becomes crass. She asks for the water that Jesus has, so that she may not have to come daily for ordinary water! Jesus' request for her to bring water from her husband leads to a revelation of her immoral life". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 106; Carson, 1991: 220; Blomberg, 2001:100; Newman and Nida, 1980: 115-6; Bennema, 2009: 87-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 60; Barrett, 1978: 231-2.

Then a shift in emphasis occurs from the topic of water in vv. 7-15 to the identity of the woman and to worship in vv. 16-26.⁹⁶⁰ In v. 16, Jesus begins inquiring about his interlocutor's personal identity. He commands her "Go, call your husband and come back" (Ὑπαγε φώνησον τὸν ἄνδρα σου καὶ ἐλθὲ ἐνθάδε). She replies, "I have no husband" (v. 17a; Οὐκ ἔχω ἄνδρα, cf. Wallace, 1996: 455; Brant, 2011: 85).⁹⁶¹ Jesus' response in vv. 17b-18 is framed within an *inclusion* of two phrases: *first*, "You are right in saying" (v. 17b; Καλῶς εἶπας); and *second*, "What you have said is true" (v. 18b; τοῦτο ἀληθὲς εἶρηκας).⁹⁶² Expressions like καλῶς in v. 17b and ἀληθὲς in 18b are used at the beginning and at the end of his response wrap up the real criticism against her in v. 18a: πέντε γὰρ ἄνδρας ἔσχες καὶ νῦν ὃν ἔχεις οὐκ ἔστιν σου ἀνὴρ.⁹⁶³ The negative expression of Jesus in v. 18a is framed by the help of two negative expressions in vv. 17b and 18b. This provides a specific format for Jesus' response.

From the personal identity questions in vv. 16-18, the dialogue turns to the subject matter of communal worship in vv. 19-26 (cf. Dodd, 1960: 313-4; Joy, 2012: 168-70).⁹⁶⁴ Through revealing her personal identity, Jesus not only intends to correct her immoral lifestyle but also to reveal his identity as the prophet of God (cf. Wallace, 1996: 265-6; Dods, 1961: 727-9). The woman's response in v. 20 is an attempt to contrast between Jesus' teaching (ὁμοῖς λέγετε ὅτι ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις ἔστιν ὁ τόπος ὅπου προσκυνεῖν δεῖ) and her own socio-religious norms (οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν ἐν τῷ ὄρει τούτῳ προσεκύνησαν)⁹⁶⁵ about worship (v. 20; cf. Lindars, 1972: 187-8; Robertson, 1932: 65). According to Williamson (1992: 728; cf. Namitha, 2000: 124; Dodd, 1960:

⁹⁶⁰ Keener (2003: 607) is of the view that, "This woman may have lost some husbands through death, but her coming to the well alone (4:7), her possible design on Jesus (4:17), and her current nonmarital sexual union (4:18) together would probably suggest to most ancient readers that she had somehow morally warranted at least part of her situation". Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 61; Bennema, 2009: 89-90; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 102; Blomberg, 2001: 100; Bruce, 1983: 106; Carson, 1991: 220-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 116-24.

⁹⁶¹ Carson (1991: 221) says that, "Jesus exposes the whole truth (as the woman herself later admits, vv. 29, 39), but in the gentlest possible way: he commends her for her formal faithfulness, while pointing out that she has had five husbands (presumably each had died or divorced her) and the man with whom she is now sleeping is not her legal husband at all". Bruce (1983: 107) states that, "... her answer, 'I have no husband', was formally true but potentially misleading".

⁹⁶² Stibbe (1993: 68-69) says that, "If the woman has had five husbands and is living *de facto* with a sixth, then Jesus is the seventh man in her life. Since seven is the perfect number in Judaism, the implicit commentary must be that the Jesus is the man which she has been waiting for, the man in whose presence she will find wholeness (*sōtēria*, v. 22)". See Newman and Nida, 1980: 119; Barrett, 1978: 235-6; Blomberg, 2001: 100-1; Carson, 1991: 221; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 61; Newman and Nida, 1980: 119; Bruce, 1983: 107.

⁹⁶³ Schnackenburg, Dodd, Morris, and Brown are of the opinion that, what Jesus meant in 4:18 is the religious adultery of the Samaritans. Namitha (2000: 124) adds further that, "The Samaritans were not faithful to their one Lord and God. Over centuries they had given allegiance to many gods. Their religion was not pure".

⁹⁶⁴ Painter (1993: 204) says that, "Jesus, now perceived to be a prophet, was asked about the right place to worship God. In 4:22-23 it becomes apparent that what Jesus sought was true worshippers which he had not found in the Temple (2:13-22). It is the true worshippers that the Father seeks (ζητεῖ) through the sending of his emissary (4:23)". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 107-9; Carson, 1991: 221-2; Bennema, 2009: 89-90; Newman and Nida, 1980: 119-20; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 61; Barrett, 1978: 236; Blomberg, 2001: 100-2.

⁹⁶⁵ Carson (1991: 222) is of the opinion that, "Both Jews and Samaritans recognized that God had commanded their forefathers 'to seek the place the Lord your God [would] choose from among all [their] tribes to put his Name there for his dwelling' (Deut 12:5), but they drew conflicting conclusions from this authorisation".

314-5), “The woman’s question about the right place to worship (v. 20) is . . . entirely appropriate as reflecting the issue that stood at the heart of Samaritan identity and is just the kind of grasped popular polemic which someone of her status might have been expected to raise”.⁹⁶⁶ The response in vv. 21-24 is diplomatic as it maintains a *future, present* and *future* format about worship as follows: *first*, he talks about the future eschatological worship in spirit and in truth. It is neither ‘on this mountain’ nor ‘in Jerusalem’ (v. 21);⁹⁶⁷ *second*, he talks about the dispute between the present worship *on this mountain* and *in Jerusalem* and affirms that salvation is for the Jews and more specifically from Jerusalem (v. 22; cf. Ashton, 1994: 44; Kok, 2010: 178) and *third*, he talks again about the coming worship in spirit and in truth (vv. 23-24; cf. Vassilopoulos, 1996: 270; Carson, 1991: 222-6).⁹⁶⁹ The woman’s last utterance to Jesus in v. 25 reveals a messianic expectation that “when he (Messiah) comes he will proclaim all things” (cf. Carson, 1995: 241; Dods, 1961: 728-9).⁹⁷⁰ This leads Jesus to the disclosure of his messiahship by that *Ἐγώ εἰμι, ὁ λαλῶν σοι* (v. 26; cf. Robertson, 1932: 68; Lindars, 1972: 191).⁹⁷¹ In the framework of the first slot, the usage of revelatory language is one of the characteristic features of the dialogue, Jesus reveals his identity dynamically and the woman understands him progressively as a *Ἰουδαῖος* (v. 9), *Κύριε* (v. 11, 15, 19), a figure ‘greater than Jacob’ (Gk. *μεῖζων Ἰακώβ*) (v. 19) and *Χριστός* (25-26; cf. Namitha, 2000: 124; Brant, 2011: 83-6).⁹⁷² The

⁹⁶⁶ Beasley-Murray (1987: 61) states that, “The woman’s recognition of Jesus as a prophet leads her to raise the burning issue between Samaritans and Jews, namely the place where God should be worshipped”. Cf. Barr, 1983: 236-8; Blomberg, 2001: 99-100; Bruce, 1983: 109-11; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 61-2; Carson, 1991: 222-6.

⁹⁶⁷ Beasley-Murray (1987: 61) says that, “Jesus champions neither Jerusalem nor Gerizim, for ‘the hour is coming’ is the eschatological hour, initiating the new age of the kingdom of God—when worship of the Father will be in spirit and truth”. Carson (1991: 223) says that, “The words *a time is coming* might better be rendered ‘the hour is coming’ (ῥα) when unqualified always points in John’s Gospel to the hour of Jesus’ cross, resurrection and exaltation or to events related to Jesus’ passion and exaltation (as in 16:32), or to the situation introduced by Jesus’ *ἐγώ εἰμι* (plural: i.e., you Samaritans) *will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem*”.

⁹⁶⁸ Carson (1991: 223) comments that, “They [Samaritans] stand outside the stream of God’s revelation, so their worship cannot possibly be characterised by truth and knowledge. By contrast, Jesus says, *we* [Jews] know what we do know: i. e., whatever else was wrong with Jewish worship, at least it could be said that the object of worship was known to them”. He (1991: 223) further says that, “The Jews stand within the stream of God’s revelation; they know the one they worship, *for salvation is from the Jews*”.

⁹⁶⁹ Carson (1991: 224) is of the opinion that, “There is an advance on v. 21: not only is the time coming, but it will come. This oxymoron is a powerful way of asserting not only that the period of worship ‘in spirit and truth’ is coming and awaits only the dawning of the ‘hour’, i.e., Jesus’ death, resurrection and exaltation, but also that the time of true worship is already proleptically present in the person and ministry of Jesus before the cross”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 61-2; Barrett, 1978: 237; Bruce, 1983: 109-11; Blomberg, 2001: 100-2.

⁹⁷⁰ Beasley-Murray (1987: 62) opines that, “This authoritative declaration on worship leads the woman to proclaim: ‘The Messiah is coming, and will tell us everything’. This is a faithful reflection of the Samaritans’ expectation, which was defined not by the prophetic books but by the Pentateuch, notably Deut 18: 15-18”. Carson (1991: 62) further says that, “The *Taheb*, as another Moses, would have the task of restoring true belief in God and the worship of God, and to this end he would reveal the truth”.

⁹⁷¹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 62) says that, “On the woman’s affirmation of this hope in the Messiah, Jesus responds to her: *Ἐγώ εἰμι*, ‘I am’, which may be completed with ‘he’; for the Evangelist, however, the formula has the overtone of the absolute being of God (cf. 6:20; 8:28, 58)”. See Newman and Nida, 1980: 124; Carson, 1991: 224; Blomberg, 2001: 100-2; Bruce, 1983: 111; Barrett, 1978: 239.

⁹⁷² As Ramsey (1957: 125; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 137) puts it, “‘thirsty Jew’ becomes ‘strange water’, ‘prophet’, ‘Messiah’, and finally ‘I . . . speaking . . . to you’”. Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Carson, 1991: 217-27; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 60-2; Barrett, 1978: 231-9; Blomberg, 2001: 100-2; Bruce, 1983: 102-11.

of the dialogue, thus, leads the reader toward the identity of Jesus by way of revealing the identity of the woman. The tri-tier format of the dialogue is seen, *first*, in the topic of living water and its cognate meanings like spirituality and eternal life, *second*, in the identity of the woman, and *third*, in the topic of worship, leads the reader toward the confirmation of Jesus' messiahship (cf. Brodie, 1993: 222; Brant, 2011: 86).

The form of the dialogue (vv. 7-26) can be understood in the following way. Both in the Nicodemus event and the Samaritan woman's discourse a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* formula is used. But in chap. 4 the central dialogue section follows two dialogical trends: *first*, a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* method (vv. 7-15);⁹⁷³ and *second*, a *challenge and riposte* method (vv. 16-26; cf. Mathews, 2009: 13-6).⁹⁷⁴ Newman and Nida (1980: 107-8; cf. Brant, 2004: 122) point out that, "The theme of verses 7-15 is living water In verses 16-26 the theme shifts to that of true worship".⁹⁷⁵ In vv. 7-9, Jesus asks the woman for a drink, in vv. 10-14, he promises living water, the gift of God, and in v. 15, the woman responds (cf. Moloney, 1998: 116-9; Brodie, 1993: 214-5).⁹⁷⁶ Though vv. 16-26 can be considered to be a single segment, it is actually made up of two topical sections: Jesus' revelation of his prophetic role by way of revealing woman's immoral character (vv. 16-19) and his attempt to transcend the local beliefs of the woman (vv. 20-26; cf. Moloney, 1998: 127-8). An interaction of the superior to the inferior is broached here by way of a Jew-and-Samaritan dialogue and that is mostly developed in a religio-cultural sense. Though the pericope maintains the format of a dialogue within a narratorial, its development is more dialogical than narratorial (cf. Lee, 2004: 163-87). The dialogue follows an "A to B, B to A, A to B, B to A" sequence (see Table 28).⁹⁷⁷ The narratorial section occupies prominence at the itinerary section (vv. 1-6; cf. Tolmie, 1999: 21-5).⁹⁷⁸ Keener (2003: 601) opines that, "What is most significant about the interaction, however, is that while Jesus' own people accuse him of being a 'Samaritan' (8:48) or a 'Galilean' (7:40-52), the

⁹⁷³ Neyrey (2007: 90) observes the *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* pattern in 3:1-21; 4:7-15; and 4:31-38. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 102-6; Blomberg, 2001: 99-100; Barrett, 1978: 231-5; Painter, 1993: 202-4; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 98-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58; Brown, 1966: 169-81; Maniparampil, 2004: 226.

⁹⁷⁴ For Stibbe, it is the dual-stage setting technique of the narrator. In the story, a dual-stage setting is created when the Samaritan woman leaves her water jar to return to the town (v. 29). This creates a *front-of-stage, rear-of-stage effect* (rather than two stages side by side, as in 18:15-27). See Stibbe, 1993: 64-5; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 87-97; Carson, 1991: 220-7; Painter, 1993: 204-7; Barrett, 1978: 235-9; Blomberg, 2001: 100-2; Bruce, 1983: 106-11.

⁹⁷⁵ Different from Newman and Nida, we have analysed in the previous section by looking at the tri-tier format of the episode (see the *water-woman-worship* pattern of the episode).

⁹⁷⁶ Moloney (1998: 115; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 148) is of the opinion that, "There is a battle of wills in this (i.e., first scene; vv. 7-15) first part of the discussion. Jesus' command arouses an arrogant response from the woman (vv. 7-9) but he wrests back the authority, speaking of the gift (cf. vv. 10-14) that the woman completely misunderstands (v. 15)". Moloney (1998: 119) says further that, "The words of Jesus have been misunderstood in a physical and selfish sense. As 'the Jews' rejected the words of Jesus in 2:20, so does the Samaritan woman in 4:15".

⁹⁷⁷ The 'turn taking' of the charactorial exchange is appropriately sustained within the dialogue. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 99-102; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58; Bruce, 1983: 102-11; Brown, 1966: 169-81; Painter, 1993: 202-7.

⁹⁷⁸ Smith (1999: 109) is of the view that, "The lengthy episode is framed by two transitional passages, which describe Jesus as arriving in Samaria on the way to Galilee (4:1-6) and moving on from Samaria to Galilee (4:53-45)". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 109-11; Barrett, 1978: 236-9; Brown, 1966: 169-81; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58.

Samaritan woman recognises Jesus as a ‘Jew’ (4:9), and he agrees (4:22)”.⁹⁷⁹ The longer c by the help of an extended narratorial is presented within a religio-cultural frame.

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Request	Give me a drink
Samaritan woman	Surprising (rhetorical) question	Jesus, as a Jew, asks water to a Samaritan woman
Jesus	Revealing unknowingness, double meaning statement	If Samaritan woman knew the gift of and the identity of Jesus, she would have asked and God would have given her water
Samaritan woman	Misunderstanding questions	Where from Jesus will get the living water while the well is deep and he does not have a bucket? Is Jesus greater than Jacob?
Jesus	Antithetical parallelism, double meaning, contrast, metaphor	Contrast between water of this world and the water that Jesus gives; the water that Jesus gives will become a spring of water that leads up to eternal life
Samaritan woman	Request, misunderstanding	She asks the water that Jesus is talking about... so that she may never be thirsty and has to keep coming to draw water
Jesus	Command/order	She is asked to bring her husband
Samaritan woman	Negation	She says that she does not have a husband
Jesus	Prophetic/revelatory utterance	What the woman says is true. She has five husbands, and the one she has now is not her husband
Samaritan woman	Understanding statement, contrast statement	Jesus is a prophet. The woman’s ancestors worshipped on Gerizim, but Jesus says that people must worship in Jerusalem
Jesus	Clarification, prophesy, contrast, thesis statement, a New Commandment	Urgency to believe in the coming hour; do not worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem; Whereas Samaritans worship what they do not know, Jesus worships what he knows; salvation is for the Jews; the hour is coming, and is now when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; God is spirit and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth
Samaritan woman	Irony, belief statement, understanding statement	Woman knows that Messiah is coming; when Messiah comes he will proclaim all things
Jesus	‘I am’ statement, revelatory utterance	Jesus is the Messiah

Table 28: ‘Form’ and ‘Content’ of utterance units in John 4:1-26

⁹⁷⁹ Keener (2003: 601) says that, “This is one of the clues that John’s use of the title ‘Jews’ in the Fourth Gospel is usually an ironic polemical device”. Keener (2003: 599) continues saying that, “The text starkly summarises the strained relationship between Jews and Samaritans; the opposition between the two people was profound”. Moloney (1998: 128) says that, “Jesus’ response to this comment (woman’s comment at v. 20) from the Samaritan woman transcends her limited notion of his being a Jewish prophet and her commitment to local traditions attached to Gerizim, in whose shadow the dialogue is taking place”.

John was intentional in employing *stylistic features*⁹⁸⁰ in order to develop the dialogue *semantically*⁹⁸¹ richer. The use of water as a *metaphor* (vv. 13-14; cf. Keener, 2003: 602-5; Brown, 1966: 169-81) may enable the reader to locate the core of the dialogue. Stylistic usages like *surprising question* (v. 9),⁹⁸² *riddles* (vv. 7, 10, 20; cf. Thatcher, 2001: 269), *antithetical parallelism* (vv. 13-14a and 22; cf. Brown, 1966: 169-81; Barrett, 1978: 234), *double meaning* (vv. 10, 13-14; cf. Van der Watt, 2005: 463-81; Neyrey, 2007: 91),⁹⁸³ *misunderstanding* (vv. 11-12, 15; cf. Lee, 1994: 71; Brodie, 1993: 217),⁹⁸⁴ *irony* (v. 12; cf. Duke, 1985: 101, 143; O'Day, 1986: 63-136),⁹⁸⁵ *intertextual references* (vv. 5-6 with Gen 29:2 and 33; cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 95),⁹⁸⁶ *inclusion* (vv. 17b-18), *repetitions* (vv. 7 and 10; water terminology and others; cf. Lee, 1994: 67), *symbolism* (water),⁹⁸⁷ *doublet phrases* and statements (v. 7 with v. 10; v. 21 with v. 23; v. 23 with v. 24; cf. Barrett, 1978: 231-6), *"I am" statement* (v. 26; cf. Brodie, 1993: 224; Witherington, 1995: 121),⁹⁸⁸ *explanatory notes* (vv. 8, 9b, 25a), *degree of comparison* (Jacob and Jesus comparison in v. 12), *paradoxical statement* (Gerizim and Jerusalem contrast in v. 20),⁹⁸⁹ and

⁹⁸⁰ 'Style' is notoriously difficult to define. It is used as a term to depict virtually anything related to language and language usage. Rhetorical expressions with literary flavor, the rhythm, and the variations of meter of the literature are important to consider during the exploration of a particular text. Cf. Botha, 1977: 114; Chakkuvarackal, 2002: 163-175, 165; Sugirtharajah, 1999.

⁹⁸¹ *Semantics* is the study of meaning. The word itself denotes a range of ideas, from the popular to the highly technical. It is often used in ordinary language to denote a problem of understanding that comes down to word selection or connotation. See Cotterell and Turner, 1987: 28; cf. Langacker, 1999; Riis Nielson and Nielson, 1995.

⁹⁸² Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 99; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58) say that, "A curiosity in this passage is that the woman, a Samaritan, calls Jesus a 'Judean'".

⁹⁸³ "Flowing" to describe water and food; cf. Bruce, 1983: 103-4; Carson, 1991: 218-9; Barrett, 1978: 233-4; Brown, 1966: 169-81; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58.

⁹⁸⁴ Duke (1985: 145) says that, "Dialogue partners can misunderstand metaphors (2:19-21; 4:10-15, 31-34; 6:32-35, 51-53; 11:11-15), double meanings (3:3-5; 12:32-34) or other kinds of cryptic or ambiguous expression (7:33-36; 8:21-22, 31-35, 51-53, 56-58; 11:23-25; 13:36-38; 14:4-6, 7-9; 16:16-19)".

⁹⁸⁵ Witherington (1995: 119) says that, "Here is a narrative loaded with artistic skill and irony, which Jewish listeners especially were likely to appreciate because of its echoes of early stories and ideas from the Hebrew Scriptures". Duke (1985: 101) is of the opinion that, ". . . the author has placed this account closely following a story in which *water* transformed into wedding wine is attributed to the *bridegroom* (2:1-11), and almost immediately after John the Baptist has talked about hearing the *Bridegroom's voice* (3:29). Such a context enriches the irony of the woman's ignorance of Jesus' identity". This was an ancient technique (e.g., 1 Sam 1:13-16; 2:17-18; 16:12-14; Matthew 2:1-18) and perhaps conspicuous in John 5 and 9. "Here", as Keener says, "as often, John employs ironic contrasts among characters to convey his emphases". Cf. Keener, 2003: 584; Brown, 1966: cxxxv-cxxxvi; Barrett, 1978: 234; Carson, 1991: 219.

⁹⁸⁶ Witherington (1995: 118) states that, ". . . it has long been noted that this text should be read in light of the Old Testament stories about women's encounters at wells, especially the stories of the betrothal scenes involving Isaac (Gen 24:10-61), Jacob (Gen 29:1-20), and Moses (Exo 2:15b-21)". Also see Ruth 2:1-23; 1 Sam 9:11-12. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 231; Painter, 1993: 200; Brown, 1966: 169-81; Bruce, 1983: 101-2.

⁹⁸⁷ Lee (1994: 71) says that, "Jesus' utterance in v. 10 is a metaphor structured around three key elements: the giving of water (καὶ ἔδωκεν ἡμῖν), the gift of water (ἕδωκεν ζῶν) and the one who is thirsty for water (οὗ ἡμῖν ἡττοσας αὐτὸν). It reveals the way in which the image of water is bound up with the question of Jesus' identity: here, as elsewhere in the Fourth Gospel, symbolism and Christology are inseparable".

⁹⁸⁸ Kanagaraj (2005: 152) says that, "The dialogue reaches its climax when Jesus discloses himself as the Messiah by using the 'I am' formula. 'I who speak to you am he' is literally 'I am, he who is speaking to you'. The first of Jesus' absolute and revelatory 'I am' utterances is made to a woman marginalised by society". Cf. Carson, 1991: 226-7; Bruce, 1983: 111; Brown, 1966: 169-81; Barrett, 1978: 239-40.

⁹⁸⁹ Keener (2003: 611) states that, "As in many cultures, ancient Near Eastern cultures often spoke of holy mountains, whether the Greeks' Olympus, Jerusalem's Zion (the Temple Mount), or the Babylonians' artificial Ziggurat . . . The

*intertextuality*⁹⁹⁰ are all rhetorical components of this larger dialogue (see Table 28). utterance genres also reveal the following tenets: *requesting* (vv. 7b, 15), *surprising* (rh question (v. 9), *revealing of unknowingness* (v. 10), *command/order* (v. 16), *negation* (prophetic utterance (vv. 17b-18, 21-24), *revelatory utterance* (vv. 17b-18, 26; cf. O'Day 63-136), *clarification* (vv. 21-24), *belief statement* (v. 25), and *understanding statement* (v. Table 28). All these literary sub-genres and devices provide a solid foundation for the dialog

The woman's first question reveals her inferior status (cf. v. 9). Jesus' response, "Δός μοι ἕν ἡτήσας αὐτὸν καὶ ἔδωκεν ἅν σοι ὕδωρ ζῶν" (v. 10), leads the woman to greater people Brown, 1966: 169-81; Milne, 1993: 83-90). Stibbe (1993: 64) states that, "The narrator ag the device of *double entendre* in 4:10. The phrase 'living water' can also be translated 'water'. This results in the misunderstanding of the Samaritan woman who interprets the p the literal level".⁹⁹² The woman's misunderstanding nature is vivid for the reader through about bucket and well in v. 11 (cf. Smith, 1999: 114).⁹⁹³ Initially, Jesus appears to not spea level, and as a result, she is not able to comprehend what he says. Later the dialogue greater clarity with greater communication results. The *doublet* statement "Give me a drink and 10) shows its importance in the overall pattern of the dialogue. Rather than introdu story by way of a monologue or a narratorial piece, the narrator pays attention on the invo of both the parties and their perceptions and worldviews (cf. Bruce, 1983: 103-6; Carson 217-27). Whereas Jesus was speaking from the 'eternal life' point of view, she was exc speaking from her 'narrow-minded' Samaritan point of view. The one who was ur understand at the beginning is now (in the latter part of the discussion; vv. 16-26) movin with Jesus and understanding him step by step (cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58; Barret 235-9). Jesus' mention of her past served as a turning point for her understanding who Je (cf. Botha, 2009: 494-9). 'Where to worship and whom to worship?' are revealed to her positive outlook. Thus the overall pattern of the dialogue is framed in an *unknowing to i* sequence.

Samaritans regarded Mount Gerizim as the holiest of mountains". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 236; Carson, 1991: 221 1983: 108-9.

⁹⁹⁰ Like Samaritan religious connotations and Jacob the OT figure.

⁹⁹¹ Linguistic foregrounding is actualised through these literary forms and devices. Elam (1980: 17) "Linguistic foregrounding in language occurs when an unexpected usage suddenly forces the listener or reader to note of the utterance itself, rather than continue his automatic concern with its 'content'".

⁹⁹² Painter (1993: 203) says that, "In the dialogue with Jesus the woman, like Nicodemus, is shown to be misunderstanding (3:4, 9; 4:11-12). Just as Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus' words about birth ἄνωθεν, so the thought of Jesus' offer of water in a way that failed to grasp his symbolism".

⁹⁹³ Among the many crises within the Johannine misunderstanding motif, it is conspicuous that the tension northern Palestinian (Galilean, Samaritan, or both) spirituality and southern Judean (Jerusalocentric) conventions. Cf. Anderson, 2007: 140; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58.

The *tri-tier thematic development* (vv. 7-15, 16-18, 19-26) frames the overall form of the dialogue (cf. Brant, 2004: 211; see Diagram 21).⁹⁹⁴ Neyrey (2007: 89) says that, “The story of the enlightenment of the Samaritan woman consists of two scenes. In the first (4:7-15), she regularly misunderstands Jesus, and the grammatical form of her speech is that of questioning. But in the second (4:16-26), she speaks declarative sentences and understands Jesus all too clearly”. Jesus’ dynamic way of presenting facts through dialogue with a person from an entirely different background is conspicuous here.

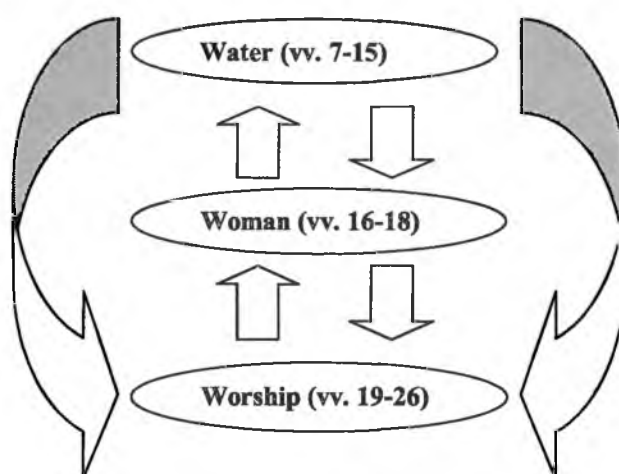


Diagram 21: The water-woman-worship framework of the first slot

The following religious connotations are present at the core of the dialogue:⁹⁹⁵ *first*, Jesus is representing Jewish religiosity outwardly and guiding his interlocutor toward eternal life perspective,⁹⁹⁶ and Samaritan woman speaks from the Gerizim-centered Samaritan religious point of view (cf. Brant, 2004: 98-9; Smith, 1999: 115); *second*, in their conversation, religious connotations like ancestral belief and belief in the coming of a “prophet like Moses” are discussed (cf. Williamson, 1992: 727); *third*, Jesus’ cross-cultural and inter-religious initiatives made evident through his attempts to turn his interlocutor’s acumen toward the “new faith” (vv. 1-7; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58; Moloney, 1998: 113-6); *fourth*, the woman gradually moves away from unknowing and misunderstanding to a level of understanding the prophet-Messiah (vv. 7-15,

⁹⁹⁴ Bruce (1983: 108) states that, “. . . since she was talking to a ‘prophet’, the conversation must take a religious turn. There are some people who cannot engage in a religious conversation with a person of different persuasion without bringing up the points on which they differ”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 231-9; Brown, 1966: 169-81; Bruce, 1983: 102-11; Milne, 1993: 83-90; Carson, 1991: 217-27.

⁹⁹⁵ According to Williamson (1992: 727), “. . . the following elements of their [Samaritans’] later creed were already established in early times: belief in one God, in Moses the prophet, in the Law and in Mount Gerizim as the place appointed by God for sacrifice”. Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 120; Keener, 2003: 593-628; Bruce, 1983: 100-5.

⁹⁹⁶ Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 61; Newman and Nida, 1980: 117; cf. Barrett, 1978: 234-5; Bruce, 1983: 102-6; Carson, 1991: 220; Bruce, 1983: 105-6; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58; Dodd, 1960: 144-50.

25-26);⁹⁹⁷ *fifth*, the 'living water' symbolism is employed in order to establish religious truth, the 'spiritual thirst' and 'eternal life' (cf. vv. 10-13; cf. Koester, 1995: 1-31; Stibbe, 1993: 64; Bruce, 1983: 102-6, 111); *sixth*, the spiritual ancestor Jacob, a common religious figure in both Judaism and Samaritan religion, is brought to the foreground in order to compare radically with Jesus (water of life; vv. 6, 11-12; cf. Blomberg, 2001: 100; Bruce, 1983: 104-5); *seventh*, the woman's character is discussed in religious terms (vv. 16-18; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 92)⁹⁹⁸ as she suddenly realises him as a prophet (cf. Neyrey, 2009: 149-50); *eighth*, the turning away from beliefs from a Gerizim-centered religion to the Jerusalem-centered salvation aspects (vv. 19-24).¹⁰⁰¹ Thus the central content of the dialogue, i.e., the revelation of the Messiah, is introduced through the syntactic framework of an inter-religious dialogue (cf. O'Day, 1986: 63-136). The stylistic features and utterance genres work within this central tenet of the dialogue.

The interaction of the content and the form helps the dialogue function persuasively all through the story.¹⁰⁰³ Aspects like the *knowing* nature of Jesus and the *unknowing* and *misunderstanding* natures of the Samaritan woman are the starting points of the dialogue proper (cf. Neyrey, 1992; Press, 2007: 2-3). The woman's progress from unknowing to self-realisation and further self-realisation to the realisation of the Messiah is narrated by the help of a well-crafted dialogue. This feature persuades the reader to read the story interactively. Jesus guides the woman f

⁹⁹⁷ Bartholomä (2010: 95) says that, "As the woman consequently acknowledges Jesus as a prophet, she develops into a reflection on proper worship which ends with Jesus disclosing his true identity as Messiah". Cf. Carson, 1991: 217-20, 226-7; Moloney, 1998: 116-34; Barrett, 1978: 231-5, 39; Newman and Nida, 1980: 111; Stibbe, 1993: 64; Bruce, 1983: 102-6, 111.

⁹⁹⁸ Cf. Barrett, 1978: 234-5; Moloney, 1998: 126-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 118-9; Blomberg, 2001: 100-1983: 106-7; Carson, 1991: 220-1.

⁹⁹⁹ Smith (1999: 115; cf. Koester, 1995: 21) says that, "By 'this mountain', Mount Gerizim, the site of the temple, is surely meant". Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 101; Carson, 1991: 221-6; Moloney, 1998: 127-31; Bruce, 1983: 111; Barrett, 1978: 236-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 119-23.

¹⁰⁰⁰ The '... already ... but ... not yet ...' pattern of worship is referred in the expression "But the hour is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth" (v. 23a). A 'present eschatological combination is at view here.

¹⁰⁰¹ Blomberg (2001: 101) is of the opinion that, "Whether or not we are to think of the Samaritan woman's of verse 19 as 'the eschatological prophet' of Deut 18:18, Jesus' claims clearly have her thinking about the Messiah". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 120-3; Barrett, 1978: 236-8; Moloney, 1998: 121-6.

¹⁰⁰² Blomberg (2001: 101; cf. Dodd, 1960: 228-40) says that, "The Samaritans actually looked for a 'restorer' and 'converter' figure called the *Taheb*, but John has provided the dynamic equivalent translation in Hebrew (transliterated) and Greek". Newman and Nida (1980: 124; cf. Dodd, 1960: 228-40; Köstenberger, 2004: 58) say that, "The Samaritans looked for a 'messiah', and they referred to him as 'Taheb', which means 'who returns'". In reference to vv. 16-19, Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 99-100) comment that, "The context of the dialogue between Jesus and the woman here indicates that they now understand this as a 'private' conversation; matters they speak of would never be talked about in public. This is further evidence that the social space has been transformed".

¹⁰⁰³ Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 98-100; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 60-2; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Bennema, 1993; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Barrett, 1978: 231-9; Bruce, 1983: 102-11; Newman and Nida, 1980: 119-23; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58.

Samaritan religiosity to the existent Jewish religiosity. His ultimate concern is not restricted within the existent Judaism, but a transformed and eternal life centered spirituality (see Table 22). The tri-tier, i.e., *water*, *woman* and *worship*, pattern of the dialogue is outlined for a purpose and that functions in a peculiar way.¹⁰⁰⁴ In the dialogue, the personal and the moral aspects of the woman are sandwiched between the divine aspects as follows: *first*, the dialogue begins by discussing about the difference between ‘the gift of Jacob’ and ‘the gift of God’, and clarifies about ‘the gift of God’ (or ‘living water’) in relation to ‘eternal life’ (vv. 7-15; cf. Thompson, 1992: 380-1; Lindars, 1972: 174-91);¹⁰⁰⁵ *second*, the woman’s moral and personal aspects are dialogued subsequently (vv. 16-18);¹⁰⁰⁶ and *third*, points out about the need to adhere with the existent Jerusalem-centered worship in order to continue with the ‘already . . . but . . . not yet . . .’ worship in spirit and truth (vv. 19-26; cf. Allison, 1992: 206-9; see Diagram 22).¹⁰⁰⁷ The dialogue reveals one of the central aspects by the end of the conversation, that is the revelation of the identity of Jesus, the “I am” or the Messiah (vv. 25-26; cf. Ball, 1996: 39, 41, 60, 62-3, 65; Williams, 2001: 343-52).¹⁰⁰⁸ This development of the dialogue rhetorically persuades the reader to aspire for eternal life experience ‘here’ and ‘now’. The narrator of the story uses stylistic features and diverse utterance genres for guiding the implied reader toward that goal.

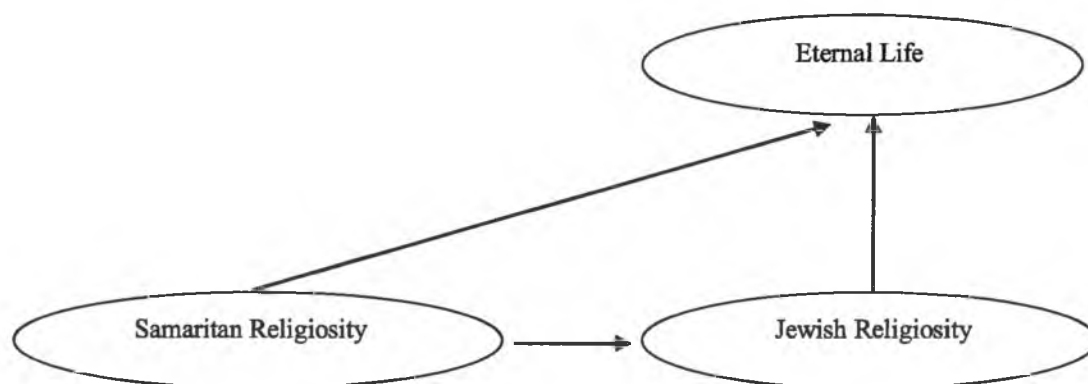


Diagram 22: The Eternal Life perspective of the dialogue

¹⁰⁰⁴ Cf. Bennema, 2009: 86-93; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Carson, 1991: 217-27; Barrett, 1978: 231-9; Bruce, 1983: 102-11.

¹⁰⁰⁵ Quast (1991/1996: 29) rightly says that, “Jacob’s own betrothal follows the same general lines (Gen 29) as this scene in John 4, now at *Jacob’s* own well”. Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Carson, 1991: 217-20; Bruce, 1983: 102-6; Barrett, 1978: 231-5; Bennema, 2009: 86-93; Keener, 2003: 601-5; Köstenberger: 2004:148-58; Moloney, 1998: 117-8.

¹⁰⁰⁶ Cf. Bennema, 2009: 86-93; Keener, 2003: 593-6; Köstenberger: 2004:148-58; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Barrett, 1978: 235-6; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Bruce, 1983: 106-7; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Carson, 1991: 220-1.

¹⁰⁰⁷ Quast (1991/1996: 35) says that, “Jacob’s well was a symbolic stage setting for talk of more than living water. Being at the foot of Mount Gerizim, it also invited dialogue about worship. In an attempt to bring the conversation back to a more familiar topic, the woman poses the question about the proper place of worship”. See Barrett, 1978: 236-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Bruce, 1983: 107-11.

¹⁰⁰⁸ Hurtado (1992: 115) interprets that, “. . . the Samaritan woman alludes to a tradition that Messiah ‘will show us all things’ (4:25), finding in Jesus’ uncanny knowledge of her life a suggestion that he may be ‘the Christ’ (4:29)”. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 111; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Barrett, 1978: 239; Köstenberger: 2004:148-58; Bennema, 2009: 86-93; Carson, 1991: 226-7; Painter, 1993: 199.

Jesus leads the woman toward 'eternal life' perspectives (see Diagram 22).¹⁰⁰⁹ In dialogue generally take place. The characters may move from one position to the other due to challenge from other characters. This appears to be the case in the present dialogue. In vv. 7-26, Jesus challenges the woman to a renewed lifestyle. Beasley-Murray (1987: 65) is of the opinion that "The concerns of the episode at Sychar are threefold: the gift of 'living water', the worship of the Father in Spirit and in truth, and mission to non-Jews. They are bound together by the action of Jesus Christ, which encompasses the tasks of Revealer, Redeemer, and Mediator of the Kingdom of God's sovereignty".¹⁰¹⁰ The dialogue deals not only about the subject matter of proper worship but also about the person to whom worship has to be offered (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 136). John's methodological approach of developing the larger dialogue sections, by the support of the narratorial, is dynamic and efficacious. Johannine dialogues-in-narratorial sections are interactive as they are on narrator-and-reader communications. In John 4:7-26, dialogues and narratorial sections are closely knitted together within the framework of the pericope.¹⁰¹¹

The Samaritan woman's search for truth makes sense for the implied reader of the episode. The Christ-focused methodology of the narrator is noticeable all through the slot. The narrator places Jesus at the centre and the dialogues move circumscribed around him. The two dialogue partners discuss their diverse perspectives face-to-face. They mostly discuss from their inter-cultural and inter-religious points of view (see Namitha, 2000: 122-4).¹⁰¹² The narrator arouses curiosity among the readers about the development and climax of the larger episode. Religious themes are discussed from beginning till end and the reader can understand the function of the dialogue as an inter-religious one.¹⁰¹³ Many of the differences between Jews and Samaritans are dealt with in the dialogue (cf. Namitha, 2000: 122-4). Jesus' static (or unchanging) character is exemplified in the dialogue.

¹⁰⁰⁹ Cf. Bennema, 2009: 86-93; Barrett, 1978: 231-9; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 98-100; Bruce, 1983: 102-11; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 60-2; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58.

¹⁰¹⁰ Köstenberger (2004: 158) says that, "Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman constitutes a paradigm for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with those ignorant of Jesus' true identity and claims. It also shows how Jesus is ready to reveal himself to those who are open to his revelation, including non-Jewish". According to B. Vander Broek (1992: 173), "Because the Johannine Jesus speaks as the Revealer, his discourse assumes a different content from the speech of Jesus in the Synoptics". Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Bennema, 2009: 86-93; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 98-100; Barrett, 1978: 231-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58; Bruce, 1983: 102-11; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 60-2, 65-6.

¹⁰¹¹ Irudaya (2003: 773) says that, "We can recognise a solidarity method in this dialogue wherein Jesus and the Samaritan woman are engaged together in a joint search for truth. One of the objectives of Johannine dialogues is the search for truth. This search for truth is not merely an individual and personal effort but also a corporate effort. Dialogue partners search for truth together and in solidarity with one another". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 231-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58; Bennema, 2009: 86-93; Bruce, 1983: 102-11; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 60-2; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 98-100.

¹⁰¹² Cf. Bruce, 1983: 102-11; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Bennema, 2009: 86-93; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Barrett, 1978: 231-9; Carson, 1991: 217-27.

¹⁰¹³ Bruce (1983: 103) states that, "The religious differences between Jews and Samaritans were serious and deeply rooted".

before Samaritan woman's progressive character (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 121-65).¹⁰¹⁴ The reader of the story understands Jesus more closely through his interferences at diverse contexts. Jesus speaks from the eternal life perspectives in diverse contexts and the reader is able to understand his character as the one 'changes his approaches contextually but remains static in his views' (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 106-12).¹⁰¹⁵

5.2.2. Slot Two (4:27)

The entry of the disciples into the stage in v. 27 introduces a *new setting within the central setting*. Verse 27 is a narrative in its entirety, but it has a dialogical tendency and it forms a second slot within the central slot.¹⁰¹⁶ Jesus and the Samaritan woman are at the centre of the stage, but the disciples are present at the corner as a surprised group and as if involved in a conversation among them.¹⁰¹⁷ Brant (2004: 27) says that, "Entrances and exits are constitutive of drama. The arrival of a person to a setting begins a dialogue. A third party entering can end a conversation, for the dialogues are seldom exchanges between more than two characters, and when all principal actors exit, the actions comes to an end". In v. 27, the entry of the disciples brings an end to the dialogue between Jesus and the woman. There is only one reported speech form within the slot, which is comprised of two questions distinguished from one another by the particle *ἤ*:¹⁰¹⁸ "What do you want?" (Τί ζητεῖς;) or "why are you speaking with her?" (Τί λαλεῖς μετ' αὐτῆς;). The narratorial reproduction of the questions would have been emerged out of either a spoken or a gesture-centered/unspoken dialogue among the disciples (cf. Powell, 1990: 25-7; Lee, 2004: 163-221; see Table 29).¹⁰¹⁹

John 4:27	Overview
v.27: Καὶ ἐπὶ τούτῳ ἦλθαν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐθαύμαζον ὅτι μετὰ γυναικὸς ἐλάλει· οὐδεὶς	<p>(1) By the sudden entry of the disciples into the scene, the setting of the story changes;</p> <p>(2) The reader comes to the point of an implicit dialogue here, i.e., among the disciples;</p> <p>(3) A reader has to keep in mind that the disciples were present at least toward the end of the dialogue between Jesus and the woman. The expression "They were astonished that he was</p>

¹⁰¹⁴ Or *developing*, from *unknowing* and *misunderstanding* to *understanding*. Cf. Carson, 1991: 217-27; Köstenberger, 2004:148-58; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Blomberg, 2001: 98-102; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Barrett, 1978: 231-9; Bennema, 2009: 86-93; Bruce, 1983: 102-11.

¹⁰¹⁵ Cf. Moloney, 1998: 116-31; Keener, 2003: 591-8; Köstenberger, 2004: 141-3; Brown, 1966: 169-81.

¹⁰¹⁶ Dodd (1960: 315) says that, "The return of the disciples and the departure of the woman (27-28a) divide the *dramatis personae* into two groups. On the front stage Jesus converses with His disciples (31-8). Meanwhile (Ἐν τῷ μεταξὺ) on the back stage the woman converses with her fellow-townsmen and induces them to accompany her to the place where she left Jesus (28b-30, 39)". But, Dodd did not make a mention about the interpretative relevance of v. 27. V. 27 can be considered as a *sub-slot* as it works only in relation to the central slot.

¹⁰¹⁷ Wallace (1996: 208, 247) observes that, "... the King James translators missed the point of μετὰ γυναικὸς (John 4:27) when they said 'the woman'. It was 'a woman', any woman, not the particular woman in question".

¹⁰¹⁸ It is a disjunctive particle, *either*, *or*, cf. Matthew 1:18; 6:24; 10:15; 18:18; Luke 12:51; Acts 17:21; 24:21; Rom 3:29; 1 Cor 7:15a.

¹⁰¹⁹ There is no explicit indication within the text whether it was a spoken dialogue or an unspoken dialogue. But, reader can view implicit details about a dialogue within the narratorial framework of the text.

μέντοι εἶπεν, τί ζητεῖς ἢ τί λαλεῖς μετ' αὐτῆς;	speaking with a woman" suggests that they were able to hear at least certain portions of dialogue. The question "why are you <i>speaking</i> with her?" can be understood as a continuing thinking among the disciples while the dialogue was in progress.
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Table 29: The dialogue of 4:27 within the narratorial framework

The text has implicit connotations of a dialogue that would have taken place among the disciples in the *background*,¹⁰²⁰ while an explicit dialogue was in progress at the *foreground*¹⁰²¹ between Jesus and the woman (see Diagram 23). Newman and Nida (1980: 125) comment that, "The Greek of this verse does not make explicit whether the first question of the disciples was addressed to Jesus or to the woman In the Greek text the second question is explicitly directed to Jesus and on the basis of this observation it may seem natural to have both questions directed to him".¹⁰²² But the narrator presents the questions with a note, οὐδεὶς μέντοι¹⁰²³ εἶπεν (but no one said).¹⁰²⁴ The reporting of the *astonishment* (ἐθαύμαζον) of the disciples in v. 27a and their unspokenness (οὐδεὶς μέντοι εἶπεν) as well as their two questions in v. 27b have to be understood from the narratorial point of view and the recapitulation tendencies (cf. Michaels, 1986: 69).¹⁰²⁵

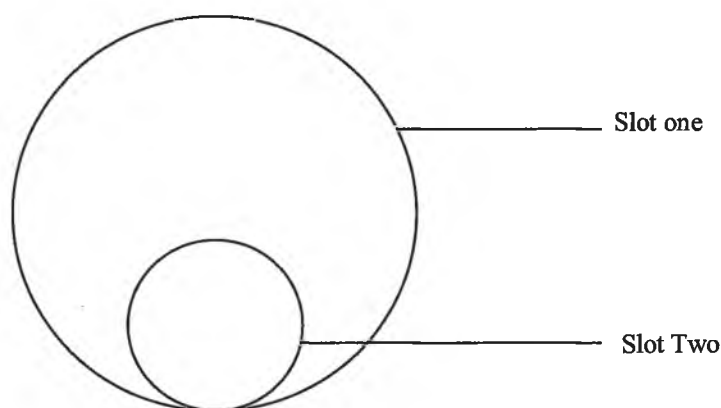


Diagram 23: Foreground and Background dialogic framework

¹⁰²⁰ A background dialogue can only be churned out from the narratorial remarks of the narrator.

¹⁰²¹ Majority of Johannine dialogues are in this category. Interaction between the verbal characters is the key element of these dialogues.

¹⁰²² In Chatman's (1978: 181-3; cf. Baldick, 1990: 111) language, the disciples' thought can be categorised as "interior monologue". But the context in which more than one person is present, we cannot merely consider it as "interior monologue". There is a possibility of an 'unspoken dialogue' among the disciples. A reader of the text can imagine about the gestures of the disciples while the dialogue between Jesus and the woman was in progress.

¹⁰²³ The usage μέντοι, here, means *nevertheless* or *however*.

¹⁰²⁴ Reinhartz (1994: 572) says that, ". . . according to the narrator, Jesus transgressed ethnic boundaries by speaking with a Samaritan woman for a drink ("Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans" [4:9]) and social boundaries by speaking with a woman (4:27)".

¹⁰²⁵ Lindars (1972: 193; cf. Vincent, 1969: 124; Morris, 1995: 242-3; Dods, 1961: 729) says that, "Proverbial warnings of the dangers of talking with a strange woman, a tradition continued by the rabbis (*Pirke Avoth* 3:1), Jesus, as a rabbi with disciples under his care, might be expected to be specially cautious in this respect". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 125; Carson, 1991: 227; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 100-1; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 6; Michaels, 1978: 240; Kanagaraj, 2005: 153; Blomberg, 2001: 102.

While the *foreground dialogue* (vv. 7-26) is reported in an 'active voice' format and directly from the mouth of the interlocutors, the *background dialogue* (v. 27) is in the 'passive voice' and in abbreviated format, and reported by the language of the narrator (see Diagram 23).¹⁰²⁶ While the *foreground dialogue* produces both visual and audio effects among the readers, the *background dialogue* remains only as a visual one.¹⁰²⁷ The dramatic nature of v. 27 is discussed by Ridderbos (1987/1997: 166) in the following way: "In verse 27 the conversation is suddenly broken off by the return of the disciples. The evangelist skilfully relates the story of what follows along two tracks, with both Jesus and the woman returning to their 'natural associates', he to his disciples and she to her fellow citizens in the Samaritan town".¹⁰²⁸ Thus the second slot (v. 27) forms an *interlude* or a *break*, a literary creation of the narrator (see Diagram 23).¹⁰²⁹ A narratorial *inclusion* is formed between vv. 8 and 27. At the beginning (v. 8) of the central dialogue narrator reports about the *going out* (ἀπεληλύθεισαν) and at the end (v. 27) about the *coming in* (ἦλθαν) of the disciples. Keener (2003: 621) is of the view that, "The surprise of the disciples here provides 'a foil to highlight the scandal of what Jesus has done'". Similarly, the narratorial reporting of the two questions provides a foil to the dialogic tendencies of the disciples (cf. Reinhartz, 1994: 573). Witherington (1995: 121) says that, "At this point the irony of the story begins to build—the disciples have left Jesus to find mere material substance, while this woman leaves her source of material substance behind (her water jug) to go to town and witness about Jesus".¹⁰³⁰ The literary devices like *questions of astonishment*¹⁰³¹ and the *surprise* and *unknowing* nature of the disciples are used in order to interlock the readers to the text (cf. Smith, 1999: 118; Neyrey, 2009: 156).¹⁰³²

¹⁰²⁶ Also read about the literary aspect of *focalisation* in relation to the *backgrounding and foregrounding* aspects, cf. Tolmie, 1999: 29-38; Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 121; Elam, 1980: 16-9.

¹⁰²⁷ Quast (1991/1996: 36) says that, "The disciples enter from the back stage, where they were buying food. They make the surprising discovery that Jesus had been conversing with a woman but the focus quickly shifts from the woman as she exists without her water jar". In this sense, v. 27 is to be understood as a narratorial attempt to reproduce the *background dialogue*. While the foreground dialogue can be understood from characterial verbal exchanges, the other can be understood only from narratorial reporting.

¹⁰²⁸ Brant (2004: 27) says that, "The Samaritan woman does not approach until the disciples have left to find food, and the disciples do not engage in dialogue until the woman departs. By recording what they do not say, the narrator underscores the fact that the disciples do not interact with the woman" For more details about narrative and drama, go to Tan, 1993: 26-93; Greimas, 1987: 63-83; Lothe, 2000: 3-10.

¹⁰²⁹ While majority of the commentators (including Talbert, Ridderbos, Schnackenburg, and others) divide the story into two major scenes or parts, they fail to consider the interludinal and dramatic nature of v. 27 within the larger framework of the episode (cf. Baldick, 1990: 61-2, 111).

¹⁰³⁰ Witherington (1995: 121) further says that, "It is noticeable that the disciples do not play a major or even very positive role in the early stages of this Gospel, not only because they misunderstood, but also because others like the Samaritan woman assumes the tasks, such as spreading the word, that Jesus wishes them to undertake".

¹⁰³¹ Robertson (1932: 68) says that, "*They marvelled* (ἐθαύμαζον). Imperfect active describing the astonishment of the disciples as they watched Jesus talking with a woman".

¹⁰³² As Neyrey (1994: 82) remarks that, "It is bad enough that a female is conversing with an unrelated male in a public place at an unusual hour. Worse, the reader is told that she considered the most significant item in this conversation Jesus' remarks on her shameless sexual behaviour". Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 158; Pazdan, 1987: 148.

The two questions recorded in the narrative introduce the following probabilities: *first*, the mental status of the disciples;¹⁰³³ *second*, they reveal the abbreviation tendencies of the narrator;¹⁰³⁴ and *third*, they reveal the proposal statements for the forthcoming dialogue between Jesus and the disciples in the fourth slot (vv. 31-38).¹⁰³⁵ The implicit references and the probabilities point the reader toward a dialogue among the disciples at the background of the scene. While the content of the slot is the quest of the disciples about Jesus' surprising activity, the function of it is an interludinal and implicit dialogue. This little section functions as a *transitional dialogue within a dialogue* in order to capture the attention of the reader toward the forthcoming developments and movements of the episode.

5.2.3. Slot Three (4:28-30)

A reader can notice the way the narrator inserts another interludinal slot at vv. 28-30. The *third slot* (vv. 28-30) occurs away from the central setting (i.e., Jacob's well; vv. 7-26) and reports the reaction of the central dialogue. In vv. 28-30, the narrator reports the activity and the utterance of the woman and the subsequent response of the people of Sychar: the woman leaving her 'well' (ὄρυγαν), going back to the city, and proclaiming (vv. 28-29; cf. Robertson, 1932: 68-9; 1993: 207);¹⁰³⁶ the Samaritans leaving the city and they are on their way to Jesus (v. 30; cf. 1995: 244; Neyrey, 2009: 156-7; see Table 30).¹⁰³⁷ The utterance unit of the woman in

¹⁰³³ Carson (1991: 227; see *Pirke Aboth* 1:5) says that, "Some Jewish thought held that for a rabbi to talk much with a woman, even his own wife, was at best a waste of time and at worst a diversion from the study of *Torah*, and potentially a great evil that could lead to Gehenna, hell". Carson (1991: 227) further states that, "Jesus' disciples interrupt the conversation by their return from Sychar, where they had gone to purchase food (v. 8). Their surprise that he was talking with a Samaritan woman reflects the prejudices of the day". Kanagaraj (2005: 153) says that, "The Samaritan woman's question 'what do you wish?' (Literally, 'what do you seek?') and 'why are you talking with her?' are unspoken questions that were ringing in their minds" (cf. Neyrey, 2009: 156-7; Kanagaraj (2005: 153) says further that, "John presents the non-understanding of the disciples in order to lead the readers to a deeper understanding of Jesus".

¹⁰³⁴ While the Jesus-woman dialogue was in progress. According to Moloney (1998: 134), "Sexual innuendo is introduced from the surface in the disciples' unspoken questions: 'What do you want? . . . Why are you speaking with her?'". Köstenberger (2004: 159; cf. Carson, 1991: 227) opines that, "Perhaps the reason why they refrain from questioning Jesus here is that the woman is still there, so that an open challenge would have created an awkward situation. The disciples' restraint may have been motivated by respect for Jesus". Bruce (1983: 112; cf. Carson, 1991: 227) states that, ". . . the disciples knew from experience that their Master always had good reason for what he did, even if it was strange and unconventional, so none of them asked the woman what she wanted with him or asked him what he was talking to her".

¹⁰³⁵ Painter (1993: 206) says that, "Between Jesus' encounter with the woman and the coming of the villagers, the narrator introduced the dialogue between Jesus and his disciples (4:27, 31-38)". The section in v. 27 can be distinguished from vv. 31-38 mainly on two grounds: *first*, the break in vv. 28-30; and *second*, while in v. 27 the disciples are in the background, in vv. 31-38 they are at the foreground. As Powell (1990: 33) states that, v. 27 can be considered as "statements of purpose" for the dialogue section at vv. 31-38. Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 100-1; Neyrey, 1993: 207; Nida, 1980: 125; Carson, 1991: 227; Blomberg, 2001: 102; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 62; Barrett, 1978: 240.

¹⁰³⁶ Dods (1961: 729) says that, "The woman accordingly", that is, because of the interruption, "left him forgetting the object of her coming, in the greater discovery she had made; and also unconsciously showing that she meant to return".

¹⁰³⁷ Wallace (1996: 545) discusses about the 'ingressive imperfect' (i.e., ἤρχοντο) as follows: "There is a contrast between the aorist and imperfect here. The aorist gets the Samaritans out of Sychar, in a summary fashion

“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” (v. 29; Δεῦτε ἴδετε ἄνθρωπον ὃς εἶπέν μοι πάντα ὅσα ἐποίησα, μήτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστός;). The content of the utterance is an invitation toward a prophet-like man who shows Messianic traits. In order to present the utterance reader-friendly, the narrator employs several literary devices. The woman leaving of the ‘water jar’ is a *prop*¹⁰³⁸ used in order to reveal the symbolical activity of leaving ‘Jacob’s water’ and proclaiming about the ‘living water’.¹⁰³⁹ Woman’s utterance in v. 29 is placed within an *inclusion*: it appears between woman’s ‘went back to the city’ (ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὴν πόλιν, v. 28) and people’s ‘leaving from the city’ (ἐξῆλθον ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, v. 30). While the woman moves from *foreground* (vv. 7-26) to *background* (vv. 28-30), the disciples move from *background* (v. 27) to *foreground* (vv. 31-38; cf. Elam, 1980: 16-19; Smith, 1999: 119).

John 4:28-30	Overview
v.28: ἀφῆκεν οὖν τὴν ὕδριαν αὐτῆς ἡ γυνὴ καὶ ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὴν πόλιν καὶ λέγει τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, v.29: Δεῦτε ἴδετε ἄνθρωπον ὃς εἶπέν μοι πάντα ὅσα ἐποίησα, μήτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστός; v.30: ἐξῆλθον ἐκ τῆς πόλεως καὶ ἤρχοντο πρὸς αὐτόν.	(1) The woman’s departure from the well to the city brings an overall change in the setting of the story. Now, the setting changes from the ‘village setting’ to a ‘city setting’; (2) The reader comes to the point of an implicit dialogue here, i.e., between the Samaritan woman and the people of Sychar; (3) Just as the second slot, it is an interludinal slot. The utterance unit (v. 29) is placed between two action-centered narratorial: (1) the woman is challenged by the dialogue with Jesus (vv. 7-26) and went back to the city (v. 28); and (2) the city dwellers are challenged by the dialogue with the woman and are on the way to Jesus (v. 30); (4) The dramatic and symbolic actions like ‘leaving off the water jar’, conversation with the people, and the ‘upward’ and ‘downward’ journeys add further meaning to the text.

Table 30: The dialogue of 4:28-30 within the narratorial framework

The form of the woman’s utterance in v. 30 can be considered as an *invitation* (cf. Brant, 2004: 194), a *messianic proclamation*,¹⁰⁴⁰ or an *explorative/negative question*.¹⁰⁴¹ Keener (2003: 622; cf.

imperfect gets them on the road to Jesus. But it looks at the action from the inside. The evangelist leaves the reader hanging with this tantalizing morsel: They were coming to Jesus but had not arrived yet”.

¹⁰³⁸ Baldick (1990: 179) defines ‘props’ as “the usual abbreviation for stage ‘properties’, i.e., those objects that are necessary to the action of a dramatic work (other than scenery, costumes, and fixed furnishings): weapons, documents, cigarettes, items of food and drink”. Ridderbos (1987/1997: 166) explains that, “The picturesque detail of the jar has been given a range of all too profound explanations, but it does of course mark the change of mood that has occurred in the woman—she has forgotten the real object of her journey . . .”

¹⁰³⁹ Brant (2004: 38; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 443) observes that the use of οὖν marks a positive reaction to Jesus’ words and actions.

¹⁰⁴⁰ Dods (1961: 729; cf. Vincent, 1969: 124) says that, “She does not positively affirm that He is the Christ, but says μήτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστός; This is what grammarians call the ‘tentative’ use of μήτι. The A.V. ‘Is not this the Christ?’ is not correct as R.V. ‘Can this be the Christ?’ The Syriac has ‘Is not this perhaps the Christ?’ The Vulgate has ‘Numquid ipse est Christus?’” Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63; Keener, 2003: 621-3; Bruce, 1983: 112-3; Moloney, 1998: 130-1; Köstenberger, 2004: 159-60; Barrett, 1978: 240; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63.

¹⁰⁴¹ Robertson (1932: 68) says that, “She is already convinced herself, but she puts the question in a hesitant form to avoid arousing opposition. With a woman’s intuition she avoided *ouk* and uses *mēti*”. Talbert (1992: 116) sees an ABA’ pattern at vv. 28-42 as follows: A: The woman goes from the well and bears witness to the Samaritans: Can this

Stibbe, 1993: 66) remarks that, “The Samaritan woman’s words of invitation (‘Come, see explicitly echo the witness of Philip in 1:46. No less than Philip, she becomes a model for v in this case, however, she brings virtually an entire town!”¹⁰⁴² By using the expression ‘come and see’, the narrator sustains the literary feature of *narrative echo effects* (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 66). Bruce (1983: 113; cf. Vincent, 1969: 124; Michaels, 1984/1989: 69) is of the opinion that the words, ‘all that I ever did’, may well have been the hyperbole of excitement”.¹⁰⁴³ The utterance of the woman (v. 29) cannot be interpreted as an isolated monologic statement. The context beckons a thorough analysis of the statement in the light of the central slot (vv. 28-30), the woman’s movement (v. 28), and people’s response (v. 30; see Table 30). An analysis of the utterance within the larger spectrum of the episode informs the reader about the implicit nature of the slot.

The following observations are very important with regard to the slot. Köstenberger (2004: 60) says about the woman’s utterance in v. 29, “. . . the woman, though clearly showing piety, has not arrived at an assumed confidence regarding Jesus’ identity (cf. 4:25); in fact, her testimony identifies him essentially as a prophet (4:29; cf. 4:19)”.¹⁰⁴⁴ The woman’s sudden action, her utterance, and peoples’ reaction lead the reader through suspense and surprise.¹⁰⁴⁵ The reader can conjecture about the possibility of a dialogue within the larger spectrum of the episode. An analysis of the dialogue between the woman and her own people is at view when the reader seriously considers the narratorial tendency of abbreviation as a phenomenon here. Her utterance in v. 29

be the Christ? (vv. 28-30); B: Jesus instructs the disciples about missions (vv. 31-38); and A': The Samaritan woman bears witness to the woman: This is indeed the Saviour of the world (vv. 39-42).

¹⁰⁴² Similarly, Köstenberger (2004: 159-60) says that, “‘Come and see’ (δεῦτε ἴδετε) resembles Jesus’ invitation to his first followers in 1:39 (cf. 1:46) . . . ‘Who told me everything I ever did’ is an obvious exaggeration, under the light of the woman’s excitement”. Cf. Moloney, 1998: 130-1; Bruce, 1983: 112-3; Keener, 2003: 621-3; Murray, 1987: 63; Barrett, 1978: 240; Carson, 1991: 227-8; Köstenberger, 2004: 159-60.

¹⁰⁴³ Morris (1995: 243) says that, “This pardonable exaggeration indicates the profound impression that the knowledge of her private life had made on her”. Duke (1985: 58) says that, “The reference to Jesus’ knowing her is unassailable, of course, but it hardly seems to be a momentous insight, since it only reiterates the woman’s claim to faith in chap. 4 (cf. 4:25, 29, 39)”. Cf. Keener, 2003: 621-3; Köstenberger, 2004: 159-60; Moloney, 1998: 130-1; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63; Barrett, 1978: 240; Carson, 1991: 228.

¹⁰⁴⁴ Namitha (2000: 124) says that, “Jesus’ mode of approach and the gradual revelation brought her face to the reality. She surrendered herself before this Divine Self-Revelation, ran to her city and brought the citizens (4:29-30, 39-41)”. But Witherington (1995: 121) says that, “It is crucial to note, however, that the woman’s faith is not a full-fledged Christian one”. Moloney (1998: 135; cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 196) remarks: “The question with the expression μήτι which ‘introduces a hesitant question’”. Lindars (1972: 193) says that, “The Greek *mēti* implies the answer ‘no’. But the implications of verse 42 hardly allow this. John *means* it to be an expression of cautious faith”. Duke (1985: 103) observes that, “she is ironically unsure that the stranger is the Christ (no *mēti*)”. Keener (2003: 622), on the other hand, says that, “It is possible that it may also be relevant that ἐστίν, although phrased as part of a question, fits the Johannine language of confession by the faith it prefigures 1:15, 30, 33, 34; 4:42; 6:14, 50, 58; 7:40-41. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 240; Carson, 1991: 227-8; Bruce, 1983: 112-3; Moloney, 1998: 130-1; Keener, 2003: 621-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63.

¹⁰⁴⁵ See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63; Moloney, 1998: 130-1; Köstenberger, 2004: 159-60; Keener, 2003: 621-3; Carson, 1991: 227-8; Barrett, 1978: 240. Kanagaraj (2005: 153) points out that, “. . . the woman still had doubt about Jesus’ messiahship, as is clear from her question, ‘Can this be the Christ?’ Her understanding of Jesus as the Messiah was obviously based on her belief in the coming *Taheb*, the prophet, who would have the power to tell the event of the end of the world”.

Samaritans' sudden departure toward Jacob's well implicitly telling the reader about the possibility of a dialogue. The woman's inter-religious dialogue with Jesus in vv. 7-26 prompted her to leave her "water jar" and to go and proclaim about him in the city. And her proclamation led the people to travel toward the well. The woman's action and words elicit rhetorical power here (cf. Court, 1997: 79-85; Vorster, 2009: 505-78; see Table 30). The narrator of the story persuades the reader to get involved in the activity of proclamation by placing the woman of Samaria as a paradigm of proclamatory act. The framework of the narrative thus actualises the goal of the narrator. Chatman (1978: 31; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 15-6; Green, 2003: 11-66) rightly states that, "Narratives are communications, thus easily envisaged as the movement of arrows from left to right, from author to audience". What Chatman says here is true as the reader is moved from passive observation to active involvement of the proclamation. While the content of the slot is a *proclamation about a prophet-like man who shows messianic traits* and the Samaritans' positive response, the form used for conveying the content is an *interludinal and implicit dialogue*. The action-oriented dialogue functions for the reader as a *call for involvement in the activity of messianic proclamation*. Thus the content, form, and function together coalesce within the narratorial framework.

5.2.4. Slot Four (4:31-38)

The disciples' entry (ἦλθαν) onto the stage and their amazement (ἐθαύμαζον) are narrated in the second slot (cf. v. 27). But the interludinal nature of the third slot takes the attention of the reader from the disciples to the woman and the people of Sychar (vv. 28-30). In vv. 31-38, a dialogue is introduced between Jesus and the disciples as a fourth slot (vv. 31-38). Dodd (1963: 325) is of the opinion that, "This short dialogue (i.e., vv. 31-38) seems to be complete in itself, with some resemblance to the synoptic pattern. It has no intrinsic connection either with the foregoing dialogue with the Samaritan woman or with the sequence of sayings which follows". But on the other hand, Beasley-Murray (1987: 59; cf. Painter, 1993: 206) observes that, "The dialogue of Jesus with the disciples in vv. 31-38 is set between two paragraphs, vv. 27-30 describing the witness of the Samaritan woman to the people of Sychar, and vv. 39-42 recounting their conversion". While Dodd attempts to isolate vv. 31-38 from the rest of the episode, Beasley-Murray tries to see that in a relational way. The unanswered and forward looking questions of the disciples in the second slot (v. 17) can be answered in the light of Jesus' responses in slot four (vv. 31-38). While disciples' current utterances are at focus in the fourth slot (vv. 31b, 33), their previous questions (i.e., v. 27: "What do you want?" and "Why are you speaking with her?") are also answered through the utterances of Jesus (cf. vv. 32, 34-38).

John 4:31-38	Overview
v.31: Ἐν τῷ μεταξύ ἡρώτων αὐτὸν οἱ μαθηταὶ λέγοντες, Ῥαββί, φάγε. v.32: ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, Ἐγὼ βρώσιν ἔχω φαγεῖν ἣν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε. v.33: Ἐλεγον οὖν οἱ μαθηταὶ πρὸς ἀλλήλους, Μὴ τις ἤμεγεκεν αὐτῷ φαγεῖν;	(1) The dialogue at vv. 31-38 is comprised of four utterance units (vv. 31b, 32b, 33b, 34b-38); out of the four utterance units two are of the disciples (vv. 31b, 33b) and two are of Jesus (vv. 32b, 34b-38);

<p>v.34: λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἐμὸν βρῶμά ἐστιν ἵνα ποιήσω τὸ θέλημα τοῦ πέμψαντός με καὶ τελειώσω αὐτοῦ τὸ ἔργον. v.35: οὐχ ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι Ἔτι τετράμηνός ἐστιν καὶ ὁ θερισμὸς ἔρχεται; ἰδοὺ λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐπάρατε τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ὑμῶν καὶ θεάσασθε τὰς χώρας ὅτι λευκαὶ εἰσιν πρὸς θερισμόν. ἤδη v.36: ὁ θερίζων μισθὸν λαμβάνει καὶ συνάγει καρπὸν εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον, ἵνα ὁ σπείρων ὁμοῦ χαίρῃ καὶ ὁ θερίζων. v.37: ἐν γὰρ τούτῳ ὁ λόγος ἐστὶν ἀληθινὸς ὅτι Ἄλλος ἐστὶν ὁ σπείρων καὶ ἄλλος ὁ θερίζων. v.38: ἐγὼ ἀπέστειλα ὑμᾶς θερίζειν δ οὐχ ὑμεῖς κεκοπιάκατε· ἄλλοι κεκοπιάκασιν καὶ ὑμεῖς εἰς τὸν κόπον αὐτῶν εἰσεληλύθατε.</p>	<p>(2) While the first utterance of the disciple (v. 31b) initiates a dialogue with Jesus, their second utterance (v. 33b) forms part of a dialogue among themselves; (3) Jesus' last utterance (vv. 34b-38) tends to be monologic as it clarifies the misunderstanding of the disciples (cf. v. 33b), goes beyond an utterance size, and ends the slot as a whole; (4) The narratives of the episode are formula narratives (vv. 31a, 32a, 33a, 34a).</p>
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Table 31: The dialogue of 4: 31-38 within the narratorial framework

The dialogue begins when the disciples urge (ἡρώτων) Jesus, saying that: Ῥαββί, φάγε (v. 31a; cf. Brant, 2011: 87).¹⁰⁴⁶ Jesus' response to them is Ἐγὼ βρῶσιν ἔχω φαγεῖν ἢν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴσασθε (v. 31b).¹⁰⁴⁷ His strange response here leads the disciples to dialogue among themselves: ἤνεγκεν αὐτῷ φαγεῖν; (v. 33; cf. Van der Watt, 2000: 93-4; Dodd, 1963: 325-7).¹⁰⁴⁸ Jesus' response (vv. 34-38)¹⁰⁴⁹ in the larger episode can be divided into three sections: *first*, his first utterance (v. 34) to do the will of the Father (Ἐμὸν βρῶμά ἐστιν ἵνα ποιήσω τὸ θέλημα τοῦ πέμψαντός με) and to complete his work (τελειώσω αὐτοῦ τὸ ἔργον, v. 34; cf. Lindars, 1972: 194; Brant, 2011: 87); *second*, a metaphor of *harvest-sower-reaper* (θερισμόν-ὁ σπείρων-ὁ θερίζων) in relation to *life* (ζωὴν αἰώνιον, vv. 35-37; cf. Dods, 1961: 730-1; Morris, 1995: 246-8);¹⁰⁵¹ and *third*, the sending of his disciples for a greater harvest (ἐγὼ ἀπέστειλα ὑμᾶς θερίζειν δ οὐχ ὑμεῖς κεκοπιάκατε· ἄλλοι κεκοπιάκασιν καὶ ὑμεῖς εἰς τὸν κόπον αὐτῶν εἰσεληλύθατε, v. 38).

¹⁰⁴⁶ Dodd (1960: 315) says, "The transition from the conversation of Jesus with the woman to His conversation with the disciples is effected (with complete dramatic verisimilitude) through the idea of food and the satisfaction of thirst (4:31)—the counterpart of water and the satisfaction of thirst". Cf. Carson, 1991: 228; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63; Newman and Nida, 1980: 126; Blomberg, 2001: 102; Bruce, 1983: 113; Barrett, 1978: 240.

¹⁰⁴⁷ Van der Watt (2000: 93; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 445-6) says, "Jesus qualifies 'his food' metaphorically (cf. v. 31b): 'My food is . . . to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work'. The object *food* (tenor) is identified with the actions of *doing the will* and *finishing the work* (vehicle)". Dodd (1963: 325-6) says, "confronted with a reminder of his bodily needs, or, to put it more generally, with the exigencies of his human condition. He replies in terms of 'sublimation': there is other 'food' than that which meets the eye. The metaphor appears elsewhere". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 240; Carson, 1991: 228; Blomberg, 2001: 102; Bruce, 1983: 113.

¹⁰⁴⁸ Lindars (1972: 194) says, "Jesus' refusal of what the disciples have brought is not given an explanation on a purely narrative level. The disciples think of a possible explanation, but it is wrong. It is John's teaching in v. 34 in order to work in the teaching of the following verses". See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63; Bruce, 1983: 113; Newman and Nida, 1980: 127; Carson, 1991: 228; Blomberg, 2001: 102-3; Barrett, 1978: 240.

¹⁰⁴⁹ Maniparampil (2004: 233) says that, "The theme of sending and the purpose of sending would explain the meaning of the metaphors of 'food', 'work', and 'harvest'. The purpose of the sending of the Son is the salvation of humanity (cf. 3:16), which the God Incarnate accomplishes by his sacrificial giving up of his life on the cross (cf. 10:45). Blomberg, 2001: 102-4; Bruce, 1983: 113-5; Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Carson, 1991: 228-31; Newman and Nida, 1980: 126-30; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4.

¹⁰⁵⁰ Wallace (1996: 475) mentions v. 34 as a *predicate nominative clause*. When commenting about the work of Jesus, Robertson (1932: 69) says that it is "originally the act of eating (Rom 14:17) from βιβρώσκω, but soon and clearly it becomes that which is eaten like βρῶμα once in John (verse 34). So here and 6:27, 55".

¹⁰⁵¹ Dodd (1960: 316) says that, "The passage is the counterpart of that place in the Synoptic Gospels (Matt 10:1; Luke 10:1-2) where Jesus, sending out His disciples, assures them, ὁ θερισμὸς πολὺς".

κεκοπιάκατε, v. 38; cf. Van der Watt, 2000: 95-101; Robertson, 1932: 69-71). In the first section, Jesus affirms that he is the one who was sent (τοῦ πέμψαντός) by the Father in order to complete a task (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 36; Dodd, 1963: 325-7). In the second, he uses farming/agricultural terminologies (i.e., θερισμόν, χώρας, καρπὸν, σπείρων, θερίζων) in order to lead his hearers toward something higher (cf. Robertson, 1932: 70-1; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 168-9).¹⁰⁵² The usage of the two parables related to harvest (i.e., "Ἐτι τετράμηνός ἐστιν καὶ ὁ θερισμὸς ἔρχεται, v. 35a; and "Ἄλλος ἐστὶν ὁ σπείρων καὶ ἄλλος ὁ θερίζων, v. 37) are vivid examples of Johannine parabolic language (cf. Van der Watt, 2000: 95-7; Quast, 1991/1996: 36-7; see Table 31).¹⁰⁵³ Bruce (1983: 114) says that, "Jesus himself was the sower; now his disciples had an opportunity to share his joy by helping to reap the harvest which had sprung from his conversation with the woman and her witness to the other Samaritans".¹⁰⁵⁴ Rejoicing together of both the sower and the reaper is recorded as a characteristic feature of the spiritual harvest (cf. Wallace, 1996: 402; Brant, 2011: 88).¹⁰⁵⁵

Utterance	Form	Content
Disciples	Request, invitation, utterance with respect	Rabbi, eat something
Jesus	Double entendre statement, metaphorical saying, revelatory utterance	Jesus has food to eat that the disciples do not know about
Disciples (<i>one another</i>)	Misunderstanding statement, statement of assurance, question	No one has brought something for Jesus to eat
Jesus	Metaphor of farming, symbolism, parabolic sayings, rhetorical question, eschatological utterance, missional saying, antithetical saying	Jesus' food is to do the will of the Father and complete his work; Parable: "Four months more, then comes the harvest"; the fields are ripe for harvest; rejoicing together of sower and reaper; Parable: "One sows and another reaps"; Jesus sends his disciples to reap that for which they did not labor; others have labored and the disciples have entered into their labor

Table 32: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 4:31-38

¹⁰⁵² Quast (1991/1996: 37) says that, "... it is an example of the dramatic retelling of an event in the ministry of Jesus as both a precursor and interpretation of later developments in the Christian church". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 126-30; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Carson, 1991: 228-31; Bruce, 1983: 113-5; Barrett, 1978: 240-3.

¹⁰⁵³ Van der Watt (2000: 96) states that, "Since the fields are personified, qualities should be found which in an analogical way qualify the Samaritans like the white with harvest qualifies the fields. Seen in this light, the total phrase, fields white with harvest, interacts metaphorically with Samaritans on the level of people who are ready to be taken from one (their old spiritual) position (the 'fields'), to another (eternal life—36), after work has been done (i.e., personal interaction or evangelisation by Jesus and the disciples)".

¹⁰⁵⁴ Blomberg (2001: 103) opines that, "That the fields are ripe for spiritual harvest (vv. 35b-36) calls to mind Jesus' imagery in Matthew 9:37-38 and Luke 10:2, along with the parable of the sower (Mark 4:13-20)".

¹⁰⁵⁵ Morris (1995: 248) says that, "The reaper is not in any way competing with the sower; in fact, he is cooperating with the sower, for reaping is simply completing the work that sowing commenced. So it is that the sower and the reaper rejoice together". Cf. Carson, 1991: 230; Kanagaraj, 2005: 155-6; Barrett, 1978: 241-2.

In the third section, Jesus commissions his disciples for a new reaping by entering into labor (cf. Van der Watt, 2000: 96-7; Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 447-54).¹⁰⁵⁶ Beasley comments that, "Since harvest is a common eschatological symbol, the saying of Jesus re the gathering of people into the Kingdom of God".¹⁰⁵⁷ Carson (1991: 230) further adds that may be saying that the eschatological age has dawned in his ministry, in which sowing and are coming together in the harvesting of the crop, the messianic community".¹⁰⁵⁸ The co the dialogue, thus, expounds about the missional and eschatological harvest.

As usual in John, the form of the dialogic slot (vv. 31-38) can be understood only on the the internal structural dynamisms within the slot as well as its connection with other slots. begins in the form of a *dialogue* between Jesus and his disciples (vv. 31b-32), develop *dialogue within a dialogue* among the disciples (v. 33),¹⁰⁵⁹ and finally tends to be a *monol* Jesus (vv. 34-38; see Table 31). Moloney (1998: 137) structures the entire slot into three as follows: *first*, vv. 31-33: the disciples urge Jesus for eating the food that they have and revelation about the unique nourishment; *second*, v. 34: the disciples' puzzlement is address informing them about the mission they are supposed to involve in (cf. Gench, 2007: 37, 1999: 121); and *third*, vv. 35-38: a proverb on harvesting and a concluding statement cor their involvement in the future missionary activity. The dialogue uses the following u forms: *request/invitation* (v. 31b), *utterance with respect* (by calling Jesus "Rabbi"; v. 31b), *entendre* (v. 32; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 97; Van der Watt, 2005: 463-81), *metaphor* (vv. 32, 3 Aaron, 2001: 1-15; Templeton, 1999: 53-65), *revelatory utterance* (vv. 32, 3 *misunderstanding statement* (v. 33; cf. Witherington, 1995: 122; Brodie, 1993: 224), *syn* (vv. 32, 34-38; cf. Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 324-5), *riddle* (v. 32; cf. Thatcher, 2001: 2 *proverbs* (vv. 35, 37; cf. Brown, 1966: 182-3; Quast, 1991/1996: 36),¹⁰⁶¹ *rhetorical que* 35a), *eschatological utterance* (vv. 34-38), *natural vs. spiritual contrast* (v. 36), and *n*

¹⁰⁵⁶ Michaels (1984/1989: 75) says that, "Verse 34 suggests that God is the sower, for Jesus' task is to finish. And in verses 39-42 it is Jesus alone who actually carries out the harvest among the Samaritan townspeople. In verse 35 he summons his disciples to the ripe harvest fields, and they are the ones who in verse 38 are to reap for which others have worked". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 114; Newman and Nida, 1980: 130; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 19; Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Carson, 1991: 230-1.

¹⁰⁵⁷ Cf. Isa 27:12; Joel 4:13; Mark 4:1-9, 26-29; Matthew 13:24-30; Rev 14:14-16. See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 19.

¹⁰⁵⁸ Kanagaraj (2005: 155-56) says, "If God's mission can be called a 'harvest', then his workers are harvesters. The mission of God is a team work and results in great joy for all members of the team". Carson (1991: 230) opinion that, "The 'crop' refers to the people who become followers of Jesus, in the first instance the Samaritans. The 'eternal life' is that for which the crop is harvested".

¹⁰⁵⁹ It works as an 'interlude within the interlude'.

¹⁰⁶⁰ Michaels (1984/1989: 75), on the contrary, says that, "Jesus is not speaking in allegories or riddles but in a simple metaphor capable of several applications".

¹⁰⁶¹ Smith (1999: 120) is of the view that, "Although there is no known proverb that corresponds to Jesus' saying, it may refer to a commonly accepted interval of four months between sowing and harvest. In any event, Jesus qualifies the expectation of a future harvest as he declares that the harvest is at hand". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Bruce, 1983: 113-5; Carson, 1991: 228-31; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-100.

sayings (vv. 34-38; see Table 32). This structural format and the stylistic/genre elements shape the dialogue in its own way.¹⁰⁶²

The use of *metaphors*¹⁰⁶³ is one of the striking literary characteristics of the narrator right from the beginning (cf. Aaron, 2001: 1-15; Witherington, 1995: 122). The use of metaphors coupled with parables in the section (i.e., vv. 31-38) emphasises and reveals some of the important spiritual truths. Vv. 31-38 also serves as another form of *interlude* (other than the *short interludes* of slots two and three) within the narratorial framework of the episode (cf. Gench, 2007: 37; Brodie, 1993: 224).¹⁰⁶⁴ The narrator of the story employs literary and stylistic features, like *metaphor*,¹⁰⁶⁵ *contrast*,¹⁰⁶⁶ and *understanding* versus *misunderstanding*,¹⁰⁶⁷ in order to develop the dialogue of the characters persuasively. The dialogue generally follows a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* format: Jesus says a *statement* (v. 32), the disciples *misunderstand* (v. 33), and Jesus *clarifies* their misunderstanding (vv. 34-38; cf. Witherington, 1995: 122; Neyrey, 2007: 97). Dodd (1963: 325) observes that, “. . . it has some of the essential characteristics of the Johannine form of dialogue, in that Jesus first utters an oracular saying, Ἐγὼ βρώσιν ἔχω φαγεῖν ἢν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε, which his interlocutors misunderstand (Μή τις ἠνεγκεν αὐτῷ φαγεῖν;), and then explains his meaning”.¹⁰⁶⁸ This format of the slot is framed by the help of dramatic and stylistic elements (cf. Tan, 1993: 26-49; Brodie, 1993: 151), and movement and stasis of the characters.¹⁰⁶⁹ Stibbe (1993: 64-65) opines that, “In 4:4-42 the *dual stage-setting* is created when the Samaritan woman leaves her water jar to return to the town (v. 29). This creates a front-of-stage, rear-of-stage effect: front-of-stage is Jesus, having conversed with the Samaritan, and now teaching his disciples about

¹⁰⁶² Chandler (2002/2007: 189) opines that, “A primary textual code involved in the construction of the subject is that of *genre*. Genres are ostensibly neutral, functioning to make *form* (the conventions of the genre) more transparent to those familiar with the genre, foregrounding the distinctive *content* of individual texts”.

¹⁰⁶³ A metaphor ascribes an action or quality of one thing to a second by way of identity. A metaphor does not state explicitly a comparison between two distinctly different things. See Resseguie, 2005: 62-4; cf. van der Watt, 2000; Frey, van der Watt, and Zimmermann, 2006; Köstenberger, 2004: 148-58.

¹⁰⁶⁴ Kanagaraj (2005: 154; cf. McHugh, 2009: 290) says about v. 31 as follows: “This verse marks the start of a small *interlude* (vv. 31-38) in the middle of Jesus’ interaction with the woman and the Samaritans”. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 102-4; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-105; Carson, 1991: 228-31; Barrett, 1978: 240-3.

¹⁰⁶⁵ Blomberg (2001: 103; cf. Aaron, 2001: 1-15) says that, “Speaking of work leads Jesus to unpack verse 34 in the light of the metaphors of sowing and harvest (vv. 35-38)”.

¹⁰⁶⁶ Newman and Nida (1980: 129) say about v. 36 as follows: “This verse contrasts the natural crops and the ‘spiritual crops’. There is an interval of four months between sowing and harvesting natural crops, but it may be that this passage suggests that with the ‘spiritual crops’ the results are immediate”. Cf. Carson, 1991: 228-31; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Bruce, 1983: 113-5; Blomberg, 2001: 102-4; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-105; Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Köstenberger, 2004: 160-3.

¹⁰⁶⁷ Beasley-Murray (1987: 63) says about vv. 31-34 as follows: “These verses form a distinctive paragraph, which moves from the misunderstanding by the disciples of Jesus’ answer to their request”. Blomberg (2001: 103) opines further that, “As narrator, John is clearly contrasting the misunderstanding of the disciples with the growing understanding of the Samaritan woman, and unflattering comparison not likely to have been invented by one of those very disciples”.

¹⁰⁶⁸ For more details about Narrative Grammar, refer to Greimas, 1987: 63-83; Lothe, 2000: 3-10. Also see Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-105; Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Blomberg, 2001: 102-4; Carson, 1991: 228-31; Bruce, 1983: 113-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4.

¹⁰⁶⁹ Helms (1988/1989: 15) says that, “The canonical Gospels exist as sequences of narrative and dramatic scenes”.

the ripe harvest; rear-of-stage, as if to illustrate the time of harvest, are the Samaritans, w/out of the town towards Jesus to become disciples".¹⁰⁷⁰ Though the story develops in dual the connection is established through the woman's activity of *harvesting* in the third slot and instruction about *harvesting* in the fourth slot (see Diagram 24).

While Jesus' dialogue with the disciples happen at the front-of-stage (vv. 31-38), a rear-of-stage dialogue is in progress between the woman and the Samaritans (vv. 28-30). Malina and Rol (1998: 101) suggest that, "As the theme turns to 'harvest', the intervening conversation b Jesus and the disciples plays again on the contrast of misunderstanding followed by explan describes what is in fact going on back in the city where the woman is spreading her stor herself and Jesus".¹⁰⁷¹ Further, Stibbe (1993: 65) adds that, "It is important to n *juxtaposition* between the woman's journey to and from the town, and the journey to and f same town undertaken by the disciples". A contrast is developed between the journeys disciples and the woman; while the disciples' journey was fruitless, the woman's journey in a fruitful harvest.¹⁰⁷² While the first (vv. 7-26) and the second (v. 27) slots are devel foreground-and-background dialogic effect, the third (vv. 28-30) and the fourth (vv. 31-3 are developing a front-of-stage and rear-of-stage effect. In the first case, dialogue takes p the same stage. Whereas in the second case, dialogue happens in two stages: one at the Jacob and the other in the city (see Diagram 24).

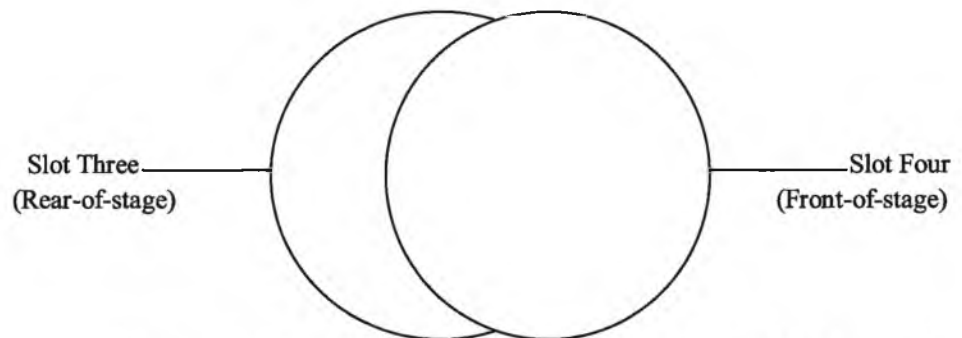


Diagram 24: Rear-of-stage and front-of stage development of the dialogue

¹⁰⁷⁰ Dodd (1963: 325-7; cf. Dodd, 1960: 311-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 59) likens it to a drama with acti place on two stages, one front and the other back. On the front stage Jesus converses with his disciples (31- on the back stage the woman speaks to the townsfolk of Sychar, and persuades them to come and see Jesu 39).

¹⁰⁷¹ There are considerable similarities between the first slot and the fourth slot. Bruce (1983: 113) states th is a parallel between Jesus' earlier conversation with the woman about water and his present conversatio disciples about food". Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 160-3; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-105; Bruce, 198 Blomberg, 2001: 102-4; Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Carson, 1991: 228-31.

¹⁰⁷² Stibbe (1993: 65) continues saying that, "The irony consists in the fact that the male disciples go to the they do not bring anything back to Jesus. Theirs is a fruitless harvest. The one woman in the story makes journey but brings many people to Jesus, and they confess Jesus as the Savior of the world. Hers is an u fruitful harvest". Newman and Nida (1980: 126) are of the opinion that, "The focus of the narrative, in the revelation discourse, now shifts from the woman and the people in the city back to Jesus and his disciples".

Dramatic elements are at the core of the fourth dialogic slot (cf. Chandler, 2002/2007: 191; Tan, 1993: 26-49).¹⁰⁷³ Dodd (1960: 315; cf. Elam, 1980: 98-207) is of the opinion that, "The transition from the conversation of Jesus with the woman to his conversation with the disciples is effected (with complete dramatic verisimilitude) through the idea of food and the satisfaction of hunger (4:31)—the counterpart of water and the satisfaction of thirst". The emphasis here is about the joyous situation in which both the planter and the reaper celebrate together (cf. Robertson, 1932: 71; Dods, 1961: 730-1). Though the dialogue at vv. 31-38 has the form of an *interludinal*, *statement-misunderstanding-clarification*, and *front-of-stage* dialogue,¹⁰⁷⁴ its connection with the previous slots and their themes has to be taken up seriously (cf. Morris, 1995: 245; Dodd, 1963: 325-7). While discussing about the spiritual harvest, Jesus is implicitly referring to the current involvement of the woman back in the city (i.e., reaping the harvest among the Samaritans; cf. vv. 28-30; see Morris, 1995: 243-4; Neyrey, 2007: 97-8). Now she is engaged as an agent of the greater harvest. Jesus prepares his disciples for the cross-cultural and inter-religious missional harvest (as he had already prepared the Samaritan woman; cf. Gench, 2007: 37; Brodie, 1993: 224-5).¹⁰⁷⁵ The thread of the inter-religious missional dialogue is implicitly brought out here. Thus the themes of the current slot (vv. 31-38) connect well with the themes of the previous slots.

The fourth slot functions in diverse ways as follows: *First*, the *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* dialogic sequence of the slot functions in a dramatic way (cf. Duke, 1985: 145). The slot cannot be interpreted in isolation as it is closely aligned together with the previous three slots (vv. 7-26, 27, 28-30) and the succeeding slot (vv. 39-42). *Second*, the central dialogue between Jesus and the woman (vv. 7-26) functions as a paradigm for the latter *teacher-disciples dialogue* (vv. 31-38).¹⁰⁷⁶ The woman's involvement in the central dialogue (vv. 7-26) and her role¹⁰⁷⁷ as a witness in the city (vv. 28-30) are deciphered as parts of an example story for the disciples to follow.¹⁰⁷⁸ Thus the dialogue functions as a pedagogical and instructional one; that is, the disciples are taught that they must imitate the woman as a missional paradigm.¹⁰⁷⁹ *Third*, the dialogue

¹⁰⁷³ For more details, see Brant, 2004: 94-5, 128, 248.

¹⁰⁷⁴ The narrator uses various utterance units, structural aspects, stylistic and dramatic features, and figures of speech in order to establish an *interludinal*, *statement-misunderstanding-clarification*, and *front-of-stage* dialogue.

¹⁰⁷⁵ Reinhartz (1994: 573) says that, "... the entire episode is placed in a missionary context, both by Jesus' enigmatic comments on harvesting and 'gathering fruit for eternal life' (4:34-38) and by the story itself, in which the Samaritan woman acts as an apostle to her compatriots".

¹⁰⁷⁶ Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 444) says that, "Jesus' conversation with his disciples in the meantime clearly has a missionary character and looks beyond the promising 'harvest' that is at hand to the future mission of the Church. Just as Jesus is now fulfilling the mandate of his Father, so he too sends out his disciples to continue his work (v. 38)". Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 101-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Dodd, 1963: 325-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 126-30; Carson, 1991: 228-31; Bruce, 1983: 113-5; Blomberg, 2001: 102-4.

¹⁰⁷⁷ Both in the central dialogue and in her proclamation back in the city.

¹⁰⁷⁸ Köstenberger (2004: 162) opines that, "... Jesus may be alerting his disciples to the fact that the events unfolding before their eyes do not correspond to the normal pattern of life, urging them to realign their priorities". Cf. Ridderbos, 1997: 168; Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Morris, 1995: 247; Brown, 1966: 181-5; Moloney, 1998: 136-45; Kanagaraj, 2005: 154-7; Milne, 1993: 83-90.

¹⁰⁷⁹ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 170) says that, "... 'I sent you' refers not to the disciples who are present in the narrative but was 'spoken from the standpoint of later missionary work where every missionary could look back on some

functions as answer(s) to the questions posed by the disciples in the second slot (v. 27): “What do you want?” or “Why are you speaking with her?”¹⁰⁸⁰ Jesus’ conversation with the disciple in the fourth slot makes clear the following things: (1) what Jesus wants is to do the will of the Father and to complete his work (that is ‘spiritual food’ over against the ‘physical food’ of the disciples (v. 34));¹⁰⁸¹ and (2) the subject matter of Jesus’ talk with the woman is living water, her need for it, and genuine worship (vv. 7-26).¹⁰⁸² As Jesus intended to prepare her for reaping the harvest now involved in the mission of reaping the harvest among her own people (vv. 28-30), Jesus expects the same from the disciples; he wanted them to be reapers as the woman is engaged in reaping (vv. 34-38).¹⁰⁸³

Fourth, Jesus’ concerns are spiritual and they are shared in metaphorical language. Jesus’ dialogue is filled with mysterious sayings and this factor forces the disciples and readers to be concerned about what he says.¹⁰⁸⁴ Moloney (1998: 137) is of the opinion that, “Along with the disciples’ story, the readers of the story are addressed as Jesus provides the theological underpinning of his life and ministry (v. 34) and invites them to accept the challenge of mission (vv. 28-30). Understanding of Jesus’ sayings equips both the disciples and the reader in order to get in

predecessor in the field”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Brown, 1966: 181-5; Moloney, 1998: 136-45; Köstenberger, 2004: 160-3; Milne, 1993: 83-90.

¹⁰⁸⁰ Lindars (1972: 193) says that, “Their unspoken questions should perhaps be translated: ‘What are you talking with her about?’” Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 102-4; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 101-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 126-30; Dodd, 1963: 325-7; Bruce, 1983: 113-5.

¹⁰⁸¹ The dialogue here functions in a structural parallelism with the central dialogue: ‘Jesus and the woman’ (vv. 7-26) parallels to ‘Jesus and the disciples in the fourth slot’ (vv. 31-38). Thus Jesus’ dialogue with the woman and the disciples circumscribes the themes of spiritual “water”/“food” brings a complete circle. Neyrey (2007: 97) is of the view that, “Jesus’ ‘water’ earlier, ‘food’ here functions as a typical Johannine double-meaning term. Like most such things in the Gospel, its literal or earthly understanding clashes with Jesus’ spiritual meaning of it. The dynamic of the story, then, is to bring the disciples to that knowledge, comparable to the way Jesus catechized the woman”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 160-3; Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Moloney, 1998: 136-45; Brown, 1966: 181-5; Milne, 1993: 83-90; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4.

¹⁰⁸² Ridderbos (1987/1997: 167) says that, “Jesus’ reply to their invitation and their subsequent reaction are reminiscent of the beginning of Jesus’ conversation with the woman (vv. 11, 12). Just as in that conversation Jesus speaks of the Father, so here the food, has a different meaning for him than for them. He speaks the same language but uses it, as it were, from within another world”.

¹⁰⁸³ While slot one is linked indirectly to the larger plot of the Johannine story, the fourth slot connects directly to the larger plot. The larger plot of the extended Johannine dialogue almost always incorporates interactions with the disciples. But Samaritan woman as a character appears only in chap. 4. In this sense, the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman is indirectly connected to the larger plot. Jesus’ dialogue with the disciples is closely connected to the larger framework of the gospel-narrative. See Milne, 1993: 83-90; Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Brown, 1966: 181-5; Köstenberger, 2004: 160-3; Moloney, 1998: 136-45.

¹⁰⁸⁴ The dialogue functions as a revelatory piece of document: the disciples expect ‘lower’ or ‘physical food’ but Jesus shares ‘higher’ food (just as the woman expected ‘lower’ or ‘physical water’ and Jesus shares with her ‘living water’). Köstenberger (2004: 161) says that, “The mention of food—first literal, then figurative—in 4:31-34 enable Jesus to develop the metaphor in 4:35 with reference to the fruit of his mission in the form of the approaching Samaritans. Brown (1966: 181) states that, “The explanation that Jesus’ food is his mission (v. 34) leads rather naturally to the extension of the metaphor in terms of harvest (v. 35), that is, the fruit of his mission is represented by the Samaritans who are coming to him”. Cf. Brown, 1966: 181; Milne, 1993: 83-90; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Moloney, 1998: 136-45; Barrett, 1978: 240-3.

the mission of God beyond the cultural and religious boundaries.¹⁰⁸⁵ This pragmatic aspect of the dialogue is rhetorical in essence. *Fifth*, the slot reveals the missional trends and theological aspects of the Johannine community. Moloney (1998: 140) says that, “The life setting for this discourse is the (Samaritan?) mission of the Johannine community. Its members are told that the reception of non-Jews into the community is the result of the initiative of Jesus”.¹⁰⁸⁶ Jesus’ open-mindedness toward the Samaritans reveals the inclusivistic missional approach of the Johannine community, which extends even to the level of the socially outcastes and religiously downtrodden. *Sixth*, the dialogue reveals: the Father and the Son interactions, as Jesus is the one sent by the Father in order to complete his work; Jesus and the disciples connections, as the disciples are supposed to obey Jesus’ commandments and engage in the harvest, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together; and Jesus and the Samaritan connections, as they are beyond the cultural and the religious boundaries.¹⁰⁸⁷ *Finally*, the dialogue works within the framework of the *belief and unbelief* conflict (i.e., the woman’s belief and her subsequent witness and harvest in the Samaritan context are contrasted with the partial belief of the disciples all through the episode).¹⁰⁸⁸ All the above mentioned functional aspects within the narrative poetics of the slot are pleasing to the reader (cf. Funk, 1988: 2-13) and persuade her/him to be a witness and a harvester.

5.2.5. Slot Five (4:39-42)

The section in vv. 39-42 records the final slot of the episode. A clear distinction of the content and the form is a difficult task as the narrative syntactics dynamically helps the reader for deriving the semantic aspects of the slot. The content of the dialogue can be inferred out of the memory statement (v. 39b), the implicit dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritans (vv. 40-41), and the final utterance of the Samaritans to the woman (v. 42; see Table 33). The starting point of the Samaritans’ belief is the testimony of the woman (v. 39b; cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 75; Brant, 2011: 88).¹⁰⁸⁹ The direct voice utterance recorded in v. 39b (Εἰπέν μοι πάντα ἃ ἐποίησα) is a

¹⁰⁸⁵ Painter (1993: 204) says that, “The theme of Jesus as quester is introduced in the second part of the scene (of the first slot, 4:16-26) and in 4:34 he reveals himself as the emissary of God whose food (and drink) is to do the will of the one who sent him and thus to fulfill his quest”. Cf. Brown, 1966: 181-5; Milne, 1993: 83-90; Köstenberger, 2004: 160-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Barrett, 1978: 240-3.

¹⁰⁸⁶ Dodd (1960: 316) says that, “His [Jesus’] mission is, not only to teach or to ‘announce’, but to complete the work of man’s salvation; that is, in terms of the various parts of this episode, to effect the transformation of water into wine, to raise the new temple, to bring (through His descent and ascent) the possibility of birth ἐκ πνεύματος, to give living water which springs up to life eternal—in a word, to open to mankind a truly spiritual or divine life”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Milne, 1993: 83-90.

¹⁰⁸⁷ Robertson (1932: 71) comments that, “It is sad when the sower misses the joy of reaping (Job 31:8) and has only the sowing in tears (Psalm 126:5-7). This may be the punishment for sin (Deut 28:30; Mic 6:15). Sometimes one reaps where he has not sown (Deut 6:11; Josh 24:13). It is the prerogative of the Master to reap (Matthew 25:26-27), but Jesus here lets the disciples share his joy”. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 113-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 101-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 126-30; Dodd, 1963: 325-7; Blomberg, 2001: 102-4.

¹⁰⁸⁸ Bennema (2009: 117-26) considers the group of disciples as a “slow but sticky” people. Cf. Carson, 1991: 228-31; Bruce, 1983: 113-5; Dodd, 1963: 325-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 126-30; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 63-4.

¹⁰⁸⁹ Quast (1991/1996: 37) says that, “Clearly the woman impressed by the insight Jesus had into her life, such that she not only accepted his claim to be the Messiah, but she also persuaded many other townspeople . . . Entrance into eternal life ultimately depends upon belief in the words of Jesus. What is more, such trust cannot exist apart from a

recollection statement from the dialogue between the woman and the Samaritans back in (cf. v. 29). Kanagaraj (2005: 158) is of the opinion that, “The woman’s testimony opened the minds of Samaritans and prompted them to come to Jesus and ask him to stay with them”. The woman’s utterance in v. 29 and its restatement in v. 39b take their root from her dialogue with Jesus in vv. 16-18 (cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 75). An implicit dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritans is recorded in vv. 40-41: “they [the Samaritans] asked him to stay with them” and “many more believed because of his word” (v. 41; cf. Lindars, 1972: 198; see Table 33).

John 4:39-42	Overview
v.39: Ἐκ δὲ τῆς πόλεως ἐκεῖνης πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτὸν τῶν Σαμαριτῶν διὰ τὸν λόγον τῆς γυναικὸς μαρτυροῦσης ὅτι Εἶπέν μοι πάντα ἃ ἐποίησα. v.40: ὥς οὖν ἦλθον πρὸς αὐτὸν οἱ Σαμαρίται, ἠρώτων αὐτὸν μένειν παρ’ αὐτοῖς· καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐκεῖ δύο ἡμέρας. v.41: καὶ πολλῶ πλείους ἐπίστευσαν διὰ τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ, v.42: τῇ τε γυναικὶ ἔλεγον ὅτι Οὐκέτι διὰ τὴν σὴν λαλιὰν πιστεύομεν· αὐτοὶ γὰρ ἀκηκόαμεν καὶ οἶδαμεν ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ σωτὴρ τοῦ κόσμου.	(1) The slot at vv. 39-42 is comprised of one utterance from the Samaritans to the woman (v. 42), one memory statement (v. 39b), and one implicit dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritans (vv. 40-41); (2) The Samaritans’ belief is affirmed through the testimony of the woman back in the city (v. 39) and through their interaction with Jesus at the well (vv. 40-41). This further helps them to proclaim about their belief to the woman (v. 42); (3) The narratives of the slot are: pure narratives (vv. 39 and 42) and formula narrative (v. 42a).

Table 33: The dialogue of 4:39-42 within the narratorial framework

Through these narratives, the reader is brought to the point where s/he observes the fact that Jesus stayed among them about two days and engaged in a series of dialogues.¹⁰⁹² Their interactions with Jesus confirmed them to say to the woman: Οὐκέτι διὰ τὴν σὴν πιστεύομεν· αὐτοὶ γὰρ ἀκηκόαμεν καὶ οἶδαμεν ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ σωτὴρ τοῦ κόσμου. 42; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 116; Brant, 2011: 88).¹⁰⁹³ Dodd (1960: 315) opines that, “. . .

personal relationship with Jesus Christ”. The narrator does not record the two-day long incidents in the text through the narratorial expression, i.e., “. . . many more believed because of his word . . .” (v. 41), and the utterance to the Samaritans, “. . . we have heard for ourselves . . .” (v. 42b), the reader is informed about the happy dialogues.

¹⁰⁹⁰ Brown (1966: 184-5) is of the view that, “The woman who was so important in scene 1 is recalled because of her word that the townspeople believe. But the completion of the Father’s work (v. 34), the harvest of the Samaritans, is to have greater durability; for the townspeople come to believe on Jesus’ own word that he is the Saviour of the world”. Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 102; Bruce, 1983: 115-6; Newman and Nida, 1980: 131-3; Barr, 1984: 243-4; Blomberg, 2001: 104; Carson, 1991: 231-2; Bennema, 2009: 90-1.

¹⁰⁹¹ Talbert (1992: 118) observes that, “The Johannine pattern is: a witness points/brings someone to Jesus; Jesus validates himself with that one; a confession of faith grows out of one’s own personal involvement with Jesus himself”.

¹⁰⁹² Kanagaraj (2005: 158) further says that, “Jesus, as the manifestation of God’s love, stayed among despised Samaritans. He fully identified himself with them and made himself available to them. Here is a model for mission work that crosses cultural and linguistic barriers”.

¹⁰⁹³ Köstenberger (2004: 164-5) comments that, “. . . Jesus is called ‘Saviour of the world’ (elsewhere in the NT in 1 John 4:14). Interestingly, the OT never calls the Messiah ‘saviour’, and the expression was not a messianic title in first-century Judaism. The Samaritans likewise did not view the Taheb as a redeemer. In the first century, ‘saviour’ was also applied to many Greek gods and Roman emperors, including Augustus (31 BCE-CE 14).”

sentence uttered by the Samaritans (41-2), like the concluding chorus of a Greek play, sums up the meaning of the whole". The dramatic nature of the entire episode is obvious here (cf. Baldick, 1990: 61-2; Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 51).¹⁰⁹⁴ The utterance of the Samaritans recorded in v. 42 is the climax of the extended episode (see Table 33).

The utterance forms recorded in "active voice" are a *testimony turned to be a memory statement* (v. 39b; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 455) and a *confession* (v. 42; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 171).¹⁰⁹⁵ The use of *analepsis* (v. 39b; cf. vv. 16-18, and 29) increases the internal co-ordination of the slots within the extended narrative framework of the episode (cf. Genette, 1980: 48-79). The slot shows inferences of a memory statement from the previous dialogue (v. 29b), an implicit dialogue (vv. 40-41), and another dialogue in an implicit form (see v. 42).¹⁰⁹⁶ Köstenberger (2004: 164) opines that, "The insistent nature of the townspeople's words to the woman is highlighted by the use of the imperfect 'they were saying' (ἔλεγον); the settled state of their own conviction is expressed by two perfects, ἀκηκόαμεν (we have heard) and οἶδαμεν (we know)".¹⁰⁹⁷ Moloney (1998: 147) analyses that, "the use of the expression λόγος to speak of the witness of the woman in v. 39 has been changed to λαλιὰ. Now that the Samaritans have come to belief in Jesus because of his λόγος. There is only one revealing λόγος, and it comes from Jesus. They believed because they themselves (αὐτοὶ) have had the experience of hearing (v. 42b: ἀκηκόαμεν)".¹⁰⁹⁸ They declare that not only because of the woman's testimony back in the city (v. 29) but also because of their direct

(CE 14-37), and Nero (CE 54-68) The LXX uses σωτήρ (*sōtēr*, saviour) both for God (e.g., Isa 45:15, 21; cf. 43:3, 11; 63:8-9) and for human deliverers such as Othniel and Ehud (Jud 3:9, 15)". Cf. Carson, 1991: 231-32; Bennema, 2009: 90-1; Newman and Nida, 1980: 131-3; Bruce, 1983: 115-6; Kanagaraj, 2005: 158-9; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 102; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 64-5; Blomberg, 2001: 104; Barrett, 1978: 243-4.

¹⁰⁹⁴ Some scholars like Hitchcock (1923/1993) and Schenke (1993) consider the FG as a whole to be a long drama. Considering the entire gospel as one drama, Hitchcock holds that no evangelist has a keener conception of a situation, dialogue and characterisation. He notes that the author had a dramatic sense by nature and every detail in the gospel has a point (see Thettayil, 2007: 19-20; cf. Bowen, 1930: 292-305; Keck, 1953-4: 173-6; Macrae, 1993: 103-13).

¹⁰⁹⁵ Painter (1991: 64) states that, "This confession is the final and climactic pronouncement of the story. It announces the successful outcome of the quest, not only for the women and the villagers, but also for Jesus in his quest for true worshippers". The woman's "irony of identity" in the previous slots to the Samaritans' real identity in the last slot (v. 42; cf. Duke, 1985: 103).

¹⁰⁹⁶ Talbert (1992: 117-8) comments that, "Vv. 39-42 is cast in the mold of the typical witness borne to Jesus (cf. 1:35-39). *First*, someone bears witness to Jesus (4:39//1:35-36). *Second*, people come to/follow Jesus (4:40//1:37, 39a). *Third*, they want to abide with Jesus and they do (4:40//1:39b). *Fourth*, as a result, they make their confession about Jesus (4:42//1:41)".

¹⁰⁹⁷ Morris (1995: 250-1) says that, "The woman might introduce them to Jesus, but faith is not faith as long as it rests on the testimony of another. There must be personal knowledge of Christ if there is to be an authentic Christian experience. The incident forms something of an exemplification of Jesus' words in verses 37-38". Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 104; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 102; Bruce, 1983: 115-6; Bennema, 2009: 90-1; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 64-5; Carson, 1991: 231-2; Barrett, 1978: 243-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 131-3.

¹⁰⁹⁸ Kanagaraj (2005: 158) opines that, "The linking of believing, hearing and knowing in verse 42 is characteristically Johannine. They are aware of the qualitative difference between the 'words' of the woman and the 'words' of Jesus". Cf. Bennema, 2009: 90-1; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 64-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 131-3; Blomberg, 2001: 104; Bruce, 1983: 115-6; Carson, 1991: 231-2; Barrett, 1978: 243-4.

hearing from Jesus prompted them to believe that Jesus is truly the Savior of the world (ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου).¹⁰⁹⁹

The major function of the dialogical seams in the fifth slot is to provide an appropriate closure for the larger episode (cf. Hellholm, 1986: 13-64). The misunderstanding nature of the disciples' faith in the fourth slot is contrasted with the understanding and believing natures of the Samaritans. Nida and Nida (1980: 131) comment that, "'Believed in Jesus' ('him') is a favorite Johannine expression (7:31; 8:30; 10:42; 11:45; 12:42). Initially the faith of the Samaritans was based on the Samaritan woman's testimony, rather than on any mighty work they had seen Jesus do. But others believe because of their own immediate encounter with Jesus".¹¹⁰⁰ Jesus' personal encounter with the Samaritan believers of the Samaritan religion brings a favourable conclusion for the inter-religious dialogue within the framework of the episode.¹¹⁰¹ According to Jones (1997: 93; cf. Thettayil, 2007: 16; Macrae, 2010: 109-12), "the voice of the narrator dominates the closing unit. 'There, however, the discourse of the comments of the woman (v. 39) and the villagers (v. 42) illustrate the conclusion drawn by the narrator (vv. 39, 40-41)". The narrator presents the story performatively by persuading the reader to come to a personal encounter with Jesus, to affirm her/his faith in Jesus, to be a witness about him, and to remain as a harvester of faith communities (cf. Windisch, 1997: 15).

¹⁰⁹⁹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 65; cf. Moloney, 1998: 147) says that, "The Evangelist, writing at a time when the title Savior of the World was applied to certain deities in the pagan world and was claimed by the Emperor of Rome, is affirming in the Samaritans' confession of Jesus in these terms both that the title rightly belongs to Jesus and also that, as Redeemer and Lord, Jesus fulfills the hopes of Samaritans, Jews, and the world of nations". Murray (1987: 66) further states that, "Chap. 4 is . . . unique among the four Gospels, in its depiction of the compassion and patience of Jesus in dealing with a Samaritan woman, his willingness to minister to a marginalized community, and the confession arising from their experience of him: 'This man is in truth the Savior of the world'". Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 102) notify that, "The final sentence of this passage contains the only use of the word *Savior* in John. The only other use of the word in the Gospel tradition is in the Lukan birth narrative. The term is widely used of the resurrected Jesus in other New Testament documents". Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 104; Benneker, 1990: 90-1; Carson, 1991: 231-2; Bruce, 1983: 115-6; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 102; Barrett, 1978: 243-4. Murray (1987: 64) says about the utterance unit in v. 42 as follows: "That is a notable confession, worthy to stand alongside the declarations about Jesus in chap. 1". Moloney (1998: 148) observes that, "The concentration on characters beyond the world of Judaism indicates that no one, of whatever race, culture, or religion is to be excluded from the Johannine theology of revelation and salvation". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 115-6; Barrett, 1978: 243-4; Newman, 1980: 131-3; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 102; Bennema, 2009: 90-1; Blomberg, 2001: 104.

¹¹⁰⁰ Painter (1993: 207) says that, "The confession of 4:42 also brings the faith of the Samaritans to the attention of the reader in terms which the evangelist wrote to promote, 20:30-31. Jesus' encounter with the Samaritans confirms that the quest for the Messiah involves more than identifying Jesus as the Messiah. It also involves a reinterpretation of his messiahship". Cf. Carson, 1991: 231-2; Blomberg, 2001: 104; Bennema, 2009: 90-1; Newman, 1980: 131-3.

¹¹⁰¹ Namitha (2000: 124) says that, ". . . they proclaimed Him as the 'Saviour of the World' (4:42), transcending the fruits of interpersonal dialogue beyond individual conversation and faith response". (1984/1989: 75) is of the view that, "Their faith had begun with the hesitant testimony of the woman about Jesus whom she had told her (vv. 29, 39), but when they met Jesus and heard his message for themselves, many more believed. Their 'secondhand' faith (as they regarded it) had given way to a personal knowledge and deep conviction that Jesus was truly the Savior of the world (v. 42)".

32).¹¹⁰² While the content of the slot is people's personal encounter with Jesus and their confirmation about his universal significance as the Savior, the forms used are testimony/memory statement, implicit dialogue(s), and a concluding dramatic utterance. The content and form of the slot are rhetorical as they persuade the reader to be a harvester for the sake of the Savior of the world.

5.3. Meso-Analysis

The above analysis of 4:1-42 helps us to classify the dialogues as follows. The content and form of the dialogic slots are coalesced in order to convey a message to the reader (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 10; see the micro-analysis above). As usual, an important feature of the narrative is its explicit and implicit dialogues. The five-slot dialogue develops within the framework of the narratives. At the outset, vv. 1-6 frames a narratorial setting for the entire episode (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87-120).¹¹⁰³ There are two explicit dialogues within the narrative: *first*, a dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman (vv. 7-26; cf. Dodd, 1960: 311-5)¹¹⁰⁴; and *second*, a dialogue between Jesus and the disciples (vv. 31-38; cf. Lindars, 1972: 194-7; Dodd, 1963: 325-7).¹¹⁰⁵ While slot one (vv. 7-26) and slot four (vv. 31-38) are mostly composed out of characterial utterances and dialogues,¹¹⁰⁶ slots two (the disciples' dialogue at the background, v. 27),¹¹⁰⁷ three (the rear-of-stage dialogue between the Samaritan woman and the Samaritans, vv. 28-30),¹¹⁰⁸ and five (a dialogue between the Samaritans and Jesus, and its continuation between Samaritans and the woman, vv. 39-42; cf.

¹¹⁰² The episode moves from a "brief display of evasive action" in 4:1-3 to "obscure language" in 4:4-42 (cf. Stibbe, 1994b: 17). But a paradigmatic reader can understand the profound meaning of the story at least by the end of it (vv. 39-42; cf. Powell, 1990: 11-21; Tolmie, 1999: 13-27).

¹¹⁰³ Köstenberger (2004: 142) says that, "In structuring his narrative, the evangelist first sets the background (4:1-3), then narrates the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman (4:4-26), and finally describes the woman's return to her village, Jesus' interchange with his disciples, and the coming of more Samaritans (4:27-42)".

¹¹⁰⁴ Lindars (1972: 174) observes that, "Unlike Nicodemus, the woman is well characterised, more background information is given, and the dialogue is kept up to the end. There is no drifting away into a monologue, as in chap. 3 and as we shall find again in chap. 5; it is far more like chap. 11, where discourse and action are completely welded together". Cf. Carson, 1991: 214-32; Barrett, 1978: 228-39; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 56-66; Bruce, 1983: 102-11; Newman and Nida, 1980: 112-24; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70.

¹¹⁰⁵ Moloney (1998: 148) opines that, "As with 2:13-3:36, the narrative of 4:1-42 articulates a point of view about how one should respond to Jesus, and the fruits of such a response. With 'the word' of Jesus as the criterion, the story of Jesus' presence among the Samaritans points to the possibility of no faith (vv. 1-15: the Samaritan woman), partial faith (vv. 16-30: the Samaritan woman), and authentic Johannine belief (vv. 39-42: the Samaritan villagers) *in the world beyond the boundaries of Judaism*". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 126-30; Barrett, 1978: 240-3; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Blomberg, 2001: 98-104; Carson, 1991: 214-32; Bruce, 1983: 113-5.

¹¹⁰⁶ Bennema (2009: 91; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 136-7) opines that, "Jesus' dialogue with the disciples in 4:31-38, like his conversation with the Samaritan woman earlier, starts at a material level and moves to a spiritual or symbolic level".

¹¹⁰⁷ While the explicit dialogue between Jesus and the woman is taking place in the foreground, an implicit dialogue is taking place at the background of the stage among the disciples. Cf. Carson, 1991: 214-32; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Bruce, 1983: 112; Blomberg, 2001: 98-104; Barrett, 1978: 240; Newman and Nida, 1980: 125.

¹¹⁰⁸ While on the front-of-stage a dialogue is happening between Jesus and the disciples, on the rear-of-stage the woman is engaged in a conversation with the Samaritans. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 56-66; Bruce, 1983: 112-3; Newman and Nida, 1980: 125-6; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Carson, 1991: 214-32.

Dodd, 1960: 315)¹¹⁰⁹ show narrator's abbreviating tendencies.¹¹¹⁰ By incorporating 1 explicit and implicit dialogues, the episode as a whole is dynamically co-ordinated and ali the narrator.¹¹¹¹ There are two memories of dialogue appear as a special category wi narratorial framework: *first*, Jesus learned what the Pharisees had heard (v. 1; cf. Kok 6);¹¹¹² and *second*, Samaritans' memory of the utterance of the woman (v. 39).¹¹¹³ While about the form of the episode, Stibbe (1993: 68; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 136-7; Reinhartz, 19 comments that, "John 4:4-42 focuses on a dialogue and evolving relationship between a and Jesus". Stibbe further attempts to establish that the story as a "marital imagery" or a "s betrothal".¹¹¹⁴ But a careful analysis of the episode makes us aware that the form is mo inter-religious type than a betrothal type. The betrothal imagery is used as a subsidiary typ the inter-religious dialogic framework.¹¹¹⁵

The two explicit dialogues (vv. 7-26, 31-38) and the three implicit dialogues (vv. 27, 28-30 form a five-slot development within the episode.¹¹¹⁶ The following dialogic trends are nc

¹¹⁰⁹ The narrator presents seams of dialogue(s) in vv. 40-41 and similarly another one between the woma Samaritans in v. 42. Cf. Carson, 1991: 214-32; Newman and Nida, 1980: 131-3; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Bru 115-6; Barrett, 1978: 243-44; Blomberg, 2001: 98-104.

¹¹¹⁰ The implicit dialogical tendencies are noticeable in v. 27 ("What do you want?" or "Why are you spea her?"), in vv. 28-30 (the woman's dialogue with the Samaritans), and in vv. 39-42 (especially the 1 expressions "they asked him to stay with them; and they stayed there two days" and "many more believed b his word", and the Samaritans' conversation with the woman). Cf. Carson, 1991: 214-32; Newman and Ni 107-33; Barrett, 1978: 228-44; Blomberg, 2001: 98-104; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 98-105.

¹¹¹¹ The use of implicit commentaries in vv. 2, 8, 9b, and 25a shows the narratorial involvement more cons within the text. The narratorial framework of the episode provides the effect of an "acted dialogue" with interests as it reports the charactorial interactions in "active voice" forms and their movements in dramatic fo utterance units and narratorial sections are intertwined together in order to lead the readers toward a dramatic

¹¹¹² The 'learning' of Jesus and the 'hearing' of the Pharisees implicitly inform the reader about the way Je was spread among the people. See Blomberg, 2001: 98-104; Bruce, 1983: 100; Newman and Nida, 198 Barrett, 1978: 228-30; Carson, 1991: 214-32; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 56-66.

¹¹¹³ Womack (2011: 40) says that, "Words inside inverted commas are primary (they were there first), a outside them are secondary (they came later), and this rule of interpretation applies regardless of whether th context is fictional or not". See the discussion of the fifth slot. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 243; Bruce, 1983: 115; Nev Nida, 1980: 131-2; Carson, 1991: 214-32; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70.

¹¹¹⁴ Stibbe (1993: 68-91; cf. Reinhartz, 1994: 572; Brodie, 1993: 233) states that, "Though a literal betro indicated between the two, there is marital imagery in the exchange in vv. 16-18 . . . to a symbolic b Culpepper (1983: 136) says that, "The encounter of the leading character with his future wife at a conventional biblical type-scene (e.g., Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses). Allusions to the patriarchs underline the scene's scriptural associations".

¹¹¹⁵ The following things are important to observe within the story: *first*, instead of narrating it as a mere con between a man and a woman, the narrator attempts to present it as a conversation between a *Jewish* man (the the world) and a *Samaritan* woman (a socially/religiously marginalised woman); *second*, the conversation is 1 attention of the reader toward the eternal life/religious perspectives than to the nuptial perspectives; and woman's understanding about Jesus develops in religious terms. All these observations make a point that religious perspectives are at the core of the dialogue. When Jesus instructs the disciples at the fourth slot, he d them for being witnesses as the woman is a model for them to follow. The form of 'symbolic betrothal', proposes, may be meaningful only within the premises of the inter-religious framework of the episode.

¹¹¹⁶ Kennedy (1984: 23) says that, ". . . arrangement, seeks to determine the rhetorically effective compositi speech and mold its elements into a unified structure". "In the *Phaedrus* (264c)", Kennedy (1984: 23) says, "I that every discourse should be like a living body in which the parts cohere like limbs".

in the larger episode: *slot one*: a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* and *challenge and riposte* in inter-religious format; *slot two*: a background dialogue that forms an interlude; *slot three*: a rear-of-stage dialogue that forms an interlude; *slot four*: a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* and *front-of-stage* dialogue in a pedagogical/instructional fashion aiming toward the inter-religious mission of the disciples (cf. Dodd, 1963: 325-7); and *slot five*: testimonial and confessional (see Diagram 26). Though there are several dialogic trends within the episode, the overarching trend of the episode is linked (either explicitly or implicitly) to inter-religious aspects, witnessing, and missions (see Table 34). The Samaritans' realisation about Jesus as the Savior of the world re-emphasises the inter-religious nature of the episode.

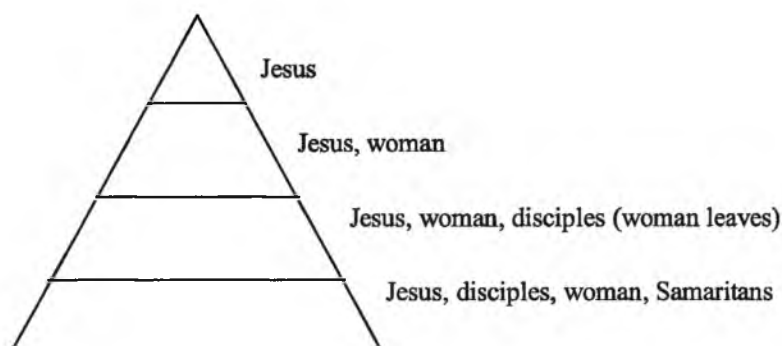


Diagram 25: Charactorial development within the episode

The characterisation of the whole story is presented in a *pyramidal* format,¹¹¹⁷ as follows: *first*, *Jesus alone* comes on stage at the beginning (4:1-6); *second*, in vv. 7-26, the interaction between Jesus and the Samaritan woman takes the attention of the reader; *third*, Jesus, the woman, and the disciples appear on stage in vv. 27-38 (with an exception of the departure of the woman in v. 28); and *fourth*, it became a community issue where Jesus, the woman, the disciples, and the Samaritan people are involved (see Diagram 25).¹¹¹⁸ The narrator's depiction of the story focusing on Jesus is obvious as the protagonist remains constant on stage whereas all other characters appear and disappear. It also reveals the fact that all other characters are introduced in relation to Jesus (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 121-66).¹¹¹⁹ The narrator uses both *showing*¹¹²⁰ and *telling*¹¹²¹ techniques of characterisation in the episode.

¹¹¹⁷ *Pyramidal* means pyramidlike. In this story the characters are appearing on stage in a pyramidlike format.

¹¹¹⁸ As the characters appear on stage progressively, the story also progresses in a dramatic way. While the reader views only Jesus on stage at the beginning of the story, s/he sees a large number of people toward the climax of the story. It provides a peculiar shape for the overall characterization of the episode (see Diagram 25).

¹¹¹⁹ Kennedy (1984: 50) comments that, "Jesus speaks with external authority, based on the miracles he has performed, strengthened by his general reputation, his role as rabbi and perhaps Messiah, and the support of the disciples. He seeks to make the minor premises more acceptable to his audience by avoiding any attempt to justify them, thus relying on the ethos of his authority . . ."

¹¹²⁰ Resseguie (2005: 126-27; cf. Abrams, 1999) says that, "In showing, which is also called the *dramatic method* or *indirect presentation*, 'the author simply presents the characters talking and acting and leaves the reader to infer the motives and dispositions that lie behind what they say and do'".

¹¹²¹ Resseguie (2005: 127) states that, "In *telling*, which is also called *direct presentation*, the narrator intervenes to comment directly on a character—singling out a trait for us to notice or making an evaluation of a character and his or

While the first (vv. 7-26), third (vv. 28-30), and fifth (vv. 39-42) slots are concentrating on the woman and the Samaritans opposite to Jesus, second and fourth slots are focusing on the dialogue and their thoughts, interactions, dialogues about/with Jesus (see Diagram 26). Jesus remains on the stage all through the episode. Bennema (2009: 90-91) states that, “The woman struggles for understanding throughout the dialogue but Jesus helps her progress. This progress is reflected in the titles she uses for Jesus: she goes from ‘a Jew’ (4:9) to ‘Sir’ (4:11, 15, 19), ‘prophet’ (4:19), ‘Messiah’ (4:29) and lastly ‘Savior’ (4:42).”¹¹²² This progressive and revelatory function of the story guides the readers from suspense to surprise.

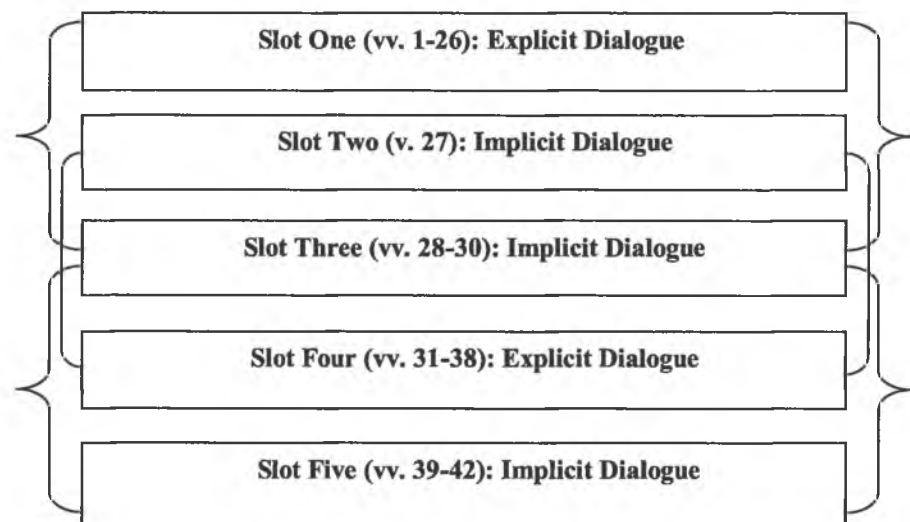


Diagram 26: Slot development within the episode

The common subject matter of both the explicit dialogues (vv. 7-26 and 31-38) is almost the same, but the linguistic phenomenon used is different. In the previous the subject is ὕδατος and in the latter it is βρώσιν; but in both cases the substance of the talk is religiosity and spirituality. In both cases the hearers are gripped in misunderstanding because of the words of Jesus (Bennema, 2009: 91; Culpepper, 1983: 136-7). The dialogue section as a whole ends with the Samaritans proclaim that Jesus is ‘the Saviour of the world’ (v. 42).¹¹²³

her motives and disposition. This method does not rely upon the reader’s ability to infer a character’s attributes from what he or she does and says. Rather, the narrator tells us about the character’s traits and motivations”.

¹¹²² Neyrey (2007: 99; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 136-7; Reinhartz, 1994: 572) states that, “Parallel to the acknowledged Jesus with increasingly elevated titles in 1:36-51, the titles given Jesus in John 4 illustrate a growth in knowledge about and acknowledgement of Jesus: v. 9 ‘a Judean’; v. 11 ‘Sir’; v. 12 ‘greater than Jacob’; v. 19 ‘a prophet’; v. 25 ‘Messiah/Christ’; v. 26 ‘I am the Messiah’; and v. 42 ‘Savior of the world’”. The progressive revelation of his identity is a significant factor in the episode. Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Carson, 1984: 32; Barrett, 1978: 228-44; Bruce, 1983: 100-16.

¹¹²³ See the Micro-analysis section above. Kermode (1987: 451; cf. Reinhartz, 1994: 572) says, “The Samaritans recognize him (i.e., Jesus) as the Christ and savior of the world. For once there is no misunderstanding”.

The evangelist orders the material in order to profile the characters through *juxtaposition*. Within chap. 3, Nicodemus and John the Baptist are juxtaposed (a *minor juxtaposition*), whereas Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman are juxtaposed in chaps. 3 and 4 (a *major juxtaposition*; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 136). The geographical expansion of the stage from Judea/Galilee to Samaria broadens the theological perspectives of the gospel.¹¹²⁴ The theme of the dialogue develops from an intra-religious Nicodemus story to an inter-religious Samaritan story. The aspects like story-telling tactics¹¹²⁵ and character dynamics¹¹²⁶ are presented in order to catch the attention of the reader. The placement of the dialogue is between two short dialogues (3:22-30 and 4:46-54; see Diagram 27). The progression of the macro-level story of John from a *report-and-defense* dialogue to an *inter-religious* dialogue and from there to a *request-rebuke-response* dialogue informs the reader about the dialogic plurality of the story of John. Similar to Plato whose “language is rich, often beautiful, and uses a wealth of literary devices that elicit, maintain, restore and reward the reader’s interest” (cf. Press, 2007: 1), John presents his dialogues with persuasive intentions.

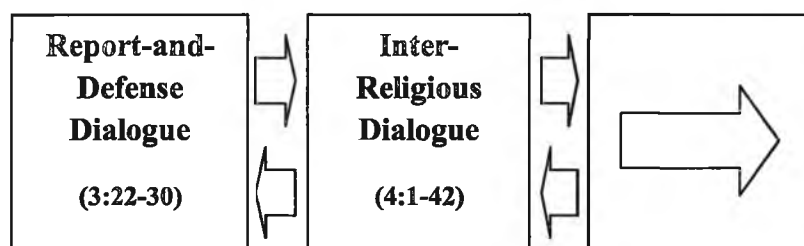


Diagram 27: The placement of the second episode

The plot structure of the story is diplomatic as it is told not only to reveal the inclusivistic approach of Jesus but also to teach the disciples about the broadness of mission (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 197-240). The story’s narratorial point of view highlights the all-inclusive love of God and its dramatic movements reveal its actualisation (cf. MacRae, 1993: 109; Elam, 1980: 135-207). The story is more romantic as the interlocutors ‘entered into each other’s lives’ and finally reached into a ‘spiritual union’. The extensive narratorial frame of the story is resultant in theological and moral concerns. All these concerns widely support the dramatic stature of the episode (cf. Womack, 2011: 82-122).

¹¹²⁴ In John’s Gospel, Jesus travels through all the three regions before the completion of the fourth chapter. This is one of the distinguishing factors of the gospel in comparison to the synoptic counterparts. Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-105; Barrett, 1978: 228-44; Carson, 1991: 214-32; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 56-66; Blomberg, 2001: 98-104; Bruce, 1983: 100-16.

¹¹²⁵ Whereas the Nicodemus story is not complete in itself as he is presented as a developing character through the gospel, cf. 7:45-52 and 19:38-42, here the Samaritan woman’s story ends pleasantly.

¹¹²⁶ In the Nicodemus incident the interlocutors interact face-to-face without any distractions; but, here the story develops through stages as the Samaritan woman’s appearance-disappearance-appearance mode is significantly contributes to the narrative dynamism of the story.

The dialogue sections of John 4:1-42 are result-oriented in the overall context of the gospel. The following aspects are very conspicuous: *first*, the dialogue educates about the universalist religious and cross-cultural mission initiatives as the protagonist breaks the ethnic, religious, and sexual boundaries in order to speak and engage in the *Missio Dei* (cf. Kok, 1968; also see Kok, 2009; Bosch, 1995); *second*, it presents a Samaritan-and-Eternity perspectival (outwardly, Samaritan-and-Jewish) dialogue with theological, ethical, and concerns;¹¹²⁷ *third*, the inter-religious tendency of the dialogue sharpens the existent view of the woman and directs her to the Saviour of the world (cf. Kermode, 1987: 451; Reinhartz, 1999); *fourth*, the appearance of both the explicit and the implicit dialogues exemplifies the real intention of the author in developing narratives artistically;¹¹²⁸ *fifth*, though the dialogic trends dominate the narratorial patterns play vital role in order to strengthen the flow of the dialogues; *sixth*, like living water, eternal life, hour, salvation, spirit and truth, belief, worship, spiritual freedom, and 'God is Spirit' develop by the help of various literary devices and metaphors in order to engage the reader;¹¹²⁹ and *seventh*, the character of Jesus is more dynamic, over against many of the characters,¹¹³⁰ and his character is well-connected with the rest of the gospel.¹¹³¹ As Womack (2011: 38) rightly observes, "... the conversations in the text, like the pictures, are so *other* than the text itself". The dialogues in vv. 1-42 dramaticise the story and persuade the reader for action.¹¹³² The narrator reveals his story-telling tendencies by way of using several literary figures of speech and stylistic devices (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 13, 25-30; Thielman, 1983: 169-83). These are tools used by the narrator in order to interlock the reader with the story (Resseguie, 2005: 41-86).

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
Slot # 1 (4:1-26)	Content: The tri-tier format of the dialogue, <i>firstly</i> on the topic of living water and its cognate meanings like spirituality and eternal life, <i>secondly</i> on the identity of the woman, and <i>thirdly</i> on the topic of worship, leads	The inter-religious (Samaritan-Jewish/eternal Life) tenet is the overarching tenet. All other tenets are within this framework. The semantic

¹¹²⁷ See Diagram 22 above. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 100-16; Barrett, 1978: 228-44; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Carson, 1991: 214-32; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-105; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 56-66; Blomberg, 2001: 98-104.

¹¹²⁸ Kennedy (1984: 13) says that, "style, which involves both choice of words and the composition of v sentences, including the use of figures".

¹¹²⁹ The narrator's use of diverse utterance genres, literary devices, and themes helps the story move forward and persuades the reader for action (see Resseguie, 2005: 41-86). Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 98-104; Kanagaraj, 2005: 100-16; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Bruce, 1983: 100-16; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-105; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 56-66.

¹¹³⁰ Though the woman appears as a dynamic character within the story, in the overall structure of the gospel she remains as a flat one (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 123-6).

¹¹³¹ Jesus is viewed as the one who takes control over the three regions, Judea, Galilee and Samaria, as a Jew, as a Messiah, and saviour of the world, as the source of living water and the true food, as a greater inter-religious dialoguer, and as the one who opens the mission of God even among the untouchables. Cf. Carson, 1991: 214-32; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-105; Barrett, 1978: 228-44; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 56-66; Bruce, 1983: 100-16; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Blomberg, 2001: 98-104.

¹¹³² Instead of developing the entire story in pure narratives, the narrator incorporates both the explicit and the implicit dialogues in order to persuade the reader (cf. Womack, 2011: 123-51). Moloney (1998: 148) argues that the promise of 3:17, 'For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him', is being acted out in the narrative". Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 56-66; Stibbe, 1993: 62-70; Barrett, 1978: 228-44; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 96-105; Bruce, 1983: 100-16.

	the reader toward the confirmation of Jesus' Messiahship // Form: Inter-religious (Eternal Life-Samaritan), <i>Statement-misunderstanding-clarification, challenge and riposte</i> , tri-tier: <i>water-woman-worship</i> sequential // Function: The Messianic identity of Jesus persuades the reader in order to aspire eternal life experience. The reader of the story understands Jesus more closely through his interference at diverse levels	concerns, like (1) the living water and its cognate meanings like spirituality and eternal life; (2) the identity of the woman; and (3) the confirmation of Jesus' Messiahship, function to guide the reader toward eternal life perspectives.
Slot # 2 (4:27)	Content: The quest of the disciples about Jesus' surprising activity of speaking with a woman in public // Form: <i>Interludinal and implicit</i> , a dialogue at the <i>background</i> // Function: It functions as a dialogue within a dialogue in order to capture the attention of the reader toward the forthcoming dramatic movements of the episode	The interludinal/implicit form of the dialogue has the theme of 'quest of the disciples about Jesus' surprising activity', and that functions to guide the reader forward.
Slot # 3 (4:28-30)	Content: An invitation toward a prophet-like man who shows Messianic traits // Form: <i>Interludinal and implicit, rare-of-stage</i> // Function: A call for involvement in the activity of Messianic proclamation	The interludinal/implicit form of the dialogue has the theme of 'proclamation about a prophet-like man who shows Messianic traits and the Samaritans' positive response' and that functions to invite the reader for getting involved in the activity of Messianic proclamation.
Slot # 4 (4:31-38)	Content: Missional and eschatological harvest // Form: <i>Front-of-stage, statement-misunderstanding-clarification</i> , pedagogical/instructional // Function: It persuades the reader to be a witness and a harvester	The <i>statement-misunderstanding-clarification</i> and front-of-stage dialogue format has the theme of inter-religious mission and eschatological harvest. It persuades the reader to be a witness and a harvester.
Slot # 5 (4:39-42)	Content: People's personal encounter with Jesus and their confirmation about his universal significance as the Saviour // Form: implicit, concluding dramatic utterance, inter-religious // Function: It persuades the reader to be a harvester for the sake of the Saviour of the world	The testimony/memory statement, implicit dialogue(s), and the concluding dramatic utterance are inter-religiously oriented. The Samaritans' personal encounter with Jesus and their confirmation about his universal significance as the Savior are introduced within the inter-religious framework. The narrator does this in order to persuade the reader to be a harvester for the sake of <i>the Saviour of the world</i> .

Table 34: The summary of the dialogue of the fifth episode

Episode Six

A Request-Rebuke-Response Dialogue

(4:43-54)

6.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

The setting of the dialogue shifts from Sychar in Samaria to Cana in Galilee.¹¹³³ Köstenberger (2004: 167; cf. Dods, 1961: 732-3; Strange, 1992: 1: 827) notes that, “. . . from Sychar to Cana was about forty miles—a trip that could have been accomplished in two or three days”.¹¹³⁴ Jesus as an itinerant messenger of God addresses diverse walks of peoples and persuades them to believe in him. Stibbe (1993: 70; cf. Robertson, 1932: 73-4; Borchert, 1996: 217-8) opines that, “The rationale for the celerity of Jesus’ movements is provided in the narrator’s aside in 4:44: ‘Now Jesus himself had pointed out (ἐμαρτύρησεν) that a prophet has no honour in his own country’. Here there is a distant analepsis of the Prologue, where the narrator says that Jesus came to his own (τὰ ἴδια) but his own did not receive him”.¹¹³⁵ Obviously the presentation of Jesus and his movements in John is entirely different from the synoptics. Whereas in the synoptics Jesus begins his ministry in Galilee and ends in Judea, in John, Jesus has already stepped into all the three provinces before finishing chap. 4 (i.e., Judea, Samaria, and Galilee; see Diagram 28).¹¹³⁶ Jesus is now known in all the three provinces while John the Baptist’s ministry is restricted within the Judean provinces. Another time Jesus visits Cana and this results in another sign (cf. Nicol, 1972: 28-9; Wallace, 1996: 187, 242).¹¹³⁷ Köstenberger (2004: 169; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 137; Moloney,

¹¹³³ Köstenberger (2004: 170) is of the opinion that, “Travel from Capernaum to Cana involved a day’s journey of about fourteen miles. The trip was mostly uphill, since Cana lay in the Galilean hill country and Capernaum was located several hundred feet below sea level”. Carson (1991: 234; cf. Bruce, 1983: 116-9) states that, “After two days in Samaria, Jesus *left for Galilee*, resuming the trip he began in v. 3”.

¹¹³⁴ Robertson (1932: 74) opines that, “That outstanding first miracle would still be remembered in Cana and would indicate that Jesus had some friends there”. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 116-9; Milne, 1993: 90-4; Brown, 1966: 186-98.

¹¹³⁵ What Kanagaraj (2005: 160) says makes more sense here. He says that, “The answer to the puzzle lies in an understanding of the geography of Galilee. Nazareth is situated in Lower Galilee on the route to Cana from Samaria. Naturally one would expect Jesus to go to Nazareth first, before proceeding on to Upper Galilee or to the Sea of Galilee where he did a major part of his ministry. However, Jesus preferred not to go to his native place, Nazareth, because his ministry was not accepted there”.

¹¹³⁶ Robertson (1932: 73) says, “John’s explanation of the conduct of Jesus by quoting a proverb often used by Jesus (Mark 6:4; Matthew 13:57; Luke 4:24 in reference to Nazareth), but not necessarily used by Jesus on this occasion. A similar proverb has been found in Plutarch, Pliny, Seneca”. Keener (2003: 628) is of the opinion, “Untrustworthy disciples (2:23-3:9) and hints of hostility (4:1-3) characterised Jesus’ reception in Judea; by contrast, Samaria (4:4-42) and Galilee (4:43-54) received his ministry”.

¹¹³⁷ Dodd (1960: 319) states, “. . . the healing of the Nobleman’s Son, is linked with . . . Cana of Galilee, which is emphatically identified as the place ὅπου ἐποίησεν τὸ ᾧδωρ οἶνον. The evangelist clearly holds it significant that the distressed father meets Jesus on the very ground where He had ‘manifested His glory’ in transforming power, lifting human life to a new level. It is the same power which is once again manifested in restoring the dying boy to life”.

1998: 153) also notes that, “Jesus was approached by ‘a certain royal official’”. If this man is a Gentile, then this marks a progression from Jews (John 3) to Samaritan to Gentile (John 4). Jesus’ ministry, in keeping with the pattern followed also in the Book of Acts (cf. 1:8)”. The two dialogue sections in chap. 4 (i.e., 4:1-42, 43-54) display the way dramatic discourse developed in John.

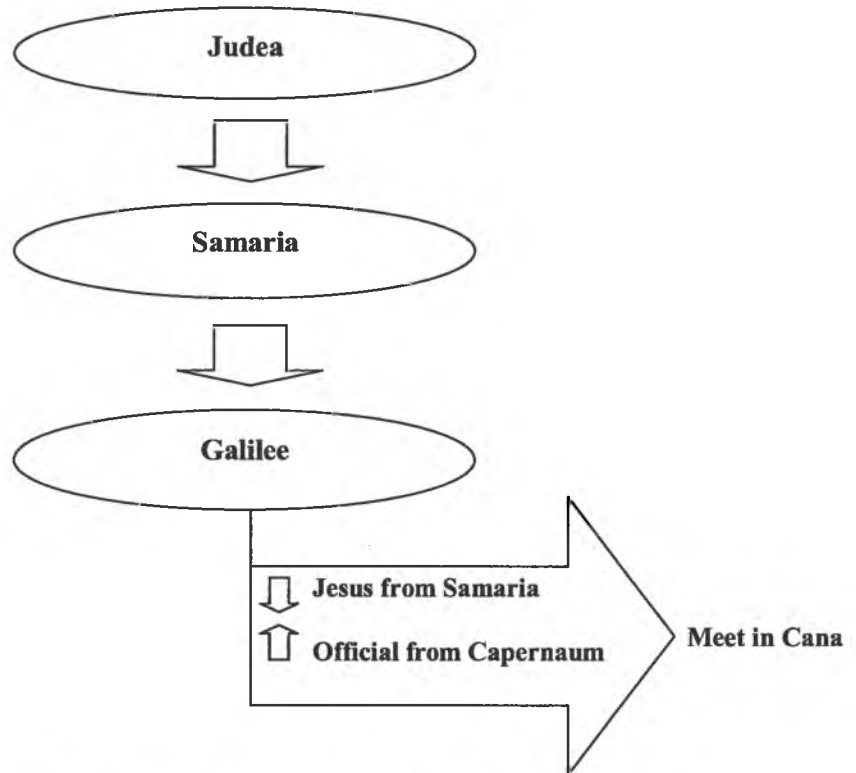


Diagram 28: Jesus' itinerary from Judea to Samaria to Galilee

The episode in 4:43-54 begins and ends at two different geographical settings, i.e., Cana and Capernaum (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87; see Diagram 28). The dialogue in vv. 47-53 is primarily within the general setting and then within the specific setting, as follows.¹¹³⁹ The setting is outlined in vv. 43-45: *first*, Jesus travels from Judea to Galilee via Samaria (v. 43);¹¹⁴⁰ *second*, he stays two days in Samaria and then proceeds to Galilee (v. 43; cf. 1983/2004: 288); and *third*, he comes to Galilee and the people welcomed him because

¹¹³⁸ Brown (1966: 1: 192; cf. Talbert, 1992: 119-20) comments that, “Since the time of Irenaeus (*Adv. Hae.* PG 7:783), scholars have suggested that John’s account of the official’s son is a third variant of the stoic centurion’s boy or servant of which forms with minor variants appear in Matthew 8:5-13 and Luke 7:1-10”. See 1993: 90-4; Moloney 1998: 153; Bruce, 1983: 116-9; Carson, 1991: 233-40.

¹¹³⁹ It works both as a conclusion to the Samaritan woman narrative and as an introduction to the forthcoming narrative.

¹¹⁴⁰ Stibbe (1993: 70; cf. Borchert, 1996: 216; Okure, 1998: 1543) says that, “Jesus now completes the first part of the gospel. Having begun at Cana in 2:1, he now returns to Cana. His travels have taken him from Cana to Jerusalem, from Jerusalem into Judea, from Judea into Samaria, and from Samaria back to Cana. The circle of his first journey is now complete”.

doings in Jerusalem during the festival (v. 45; cf. Nicol, 1972: 28-9). The specific setting of the narrative is built within the framework of the general setting. The following are important to note within the specific setting: first, *the specific place*: whereas Jesus comes from Sychar in Samaria to Cana in Galilee (i.e., the place where he had changed the water into wine; cf. Strange, 1992: 1: 827; Maniparampil, 2004: 237-8), the Royal official (βασιλικός)¹¹⁴¹ comes from Capernaum to Cana in order to invite Jesus to his home (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 100; Moloney, 1998: 153);¹¹⁴² and second, *the reason*: the Royal official's son lay ill in Capernaum (cf. Corbo, 1992: 1: 866-9; Borchert, 1996: 221-2; see Diagram 28). The narrative in vv. 47-53 develops through different contexts: *first*, in Cana, Jesus is having a dialogue with the Royal man (vv. 47-50a; cf. Lampe, 1978-80/1990: 1: 208); *second*, on the way, the Royal man is involved in a dialogue with the slaves (vv. 51-53a; cf. Blum, 1983/2004: 288); and *third*, in Capernaum, the whole family of the Royal man comes to believe (v. 53b; cf. Okure, 1998: 1543; see Table 35). This development of the setting contributes to the dramatic movement of the episode.

Slots	Episode 6: John 4:43-45, 46-54 (See the notes on each slots) ¹¹⁴³
Slot # 1 ¹¹⁴⁴	<p><i>Officer</i> (to Jesus/reported in passive voice): ἡρώτα ἵνα καταβῇ καὶ ἰάσῃται αὐτοῦ τὸν υἱόν, ἥμελλεν γὰρ ἀποθνήσκειν)</p> <p><i>Jesus</i> (to the Officer): Ἐάν μὴ σημεῖα καὶ τέρατα ἴδῃτε, οὐ μὴ πιστεύσητε</p> <p><i>Officer</i>: Κύριε, κατὰβηθι πρὶν ἀποθανεῖν τὸ παιδίον μου</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Πορεύου, ὁ υἱός σου ζῇ</p>
Slot # 2 ¹¹⁴⁵	<p><i>Slaves</i> (to the Officer/reported in passive voice): ἤδη δὲ αὐτοῦ καταβαίνοντος οἱ δοῦλοι αὐτοῦ ὑπήντησαν αὐτῷ λέγοντες ὅτι ὁ παῖς αὐτοῦ ζῇ</p> <p><i>Officer</i> (to slaves/reported in passive voice): (ἐπύθετο οὖν τὴν ὥραν παρ' αὐτῶν ἐν ᾗ κομψότερον ἔσχεν)</p> <p><i>Slaves</i> (to the Officer): Ἐχθὲς ὥραν ἐβδόμην ἀφῆκεν αὐτὸν ὁ πυρετός</p> <p><i>Jesus' words are recollected</i>: Ὁ υἱός σου ζῇ</p>

Table 35: The dialogue text of 4:43-54

¹¹⁴¹ Schmidt (1964: 591; cf. Smith, 1999: 125) comments that, "In John 4:46, 49 the concrete sense of βασιλικός is debatable. The probable reference is to a royal official. The variant βασιλίσκος, supported by D *it[var]*, would denote a petty king". Lampe (1978-80/1990: 1: 208) says that, "βασιλικός is used adjectivally for the *royal* land and robe of Herod Agrippa I". Kanagaraj (2005: 161) says that, "The official is referred to by his designation βασιλικός, which can mean either a soldier in the king's troop or an official directly subject to the king".

¹¹⁴² Bennema (2009: 94; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 206-7) states that, "The royal official resides in Capernaum, a city on the north-west shore of the Sea of Galilee (4:46) The term *basilikos* refers either to someone in the service of the king—a civil servant or military official—or to a relative of the king. The 'king' here is probably Herod Antipas, who was the tetrarch of Galilee and Peraea from 4 BCE to 39 CE. Hence, the official could have been a member of the Herodian family or someone in the service of the king—a court-official or a Roman centurian".

¹¹⁴³ The narratorial sections in vv. 43-45, 46, 53b-54 give details concerning the setting of the episode. Between the dialogues the narrator provides the necessary information to allow the episode to flow.

¹¹⁴⁴ The first slot extends from v. 46 to v. 50. It is mostly covered with narratorials at vv. 46-47 and v. 50b. This section also includes a passive voice expression (v. 47), and utterance introductions (vv. 48a, 49a, and 50a).

¹¹⁴⁵ The second slot (vv. 51-54) is a continuation of slot # 1. It begins and ends with narratorials (vv. 51-52a, 53b-54). Passive voice expressions (vv. 51b, 52a), active voice expression (v. 52b), and a memory statement (v. 53a) are covered by the narratorials.

6.2. Micro-Analysis

The narrative unit in 4:46-54 is marked with two dialogue slots: one between Jesus and the royal man (vv. 46-50) and the other between royal man and his slaves (vv. 51-53; cf. Brodie, 1999: 19; see Table 36). But the story develops through three settings (vv. 46-50, 51-53a, 53b-54). The content of the first slot (vv. 46-50) begins with the royal man's request (ἡρώτα) to Jesus in the passive voice format,¹¹⁴⁷ i.e., ἵνα καταβῇ καὶ ἰάσῃται αὐτοῦ τὸν υἱόν, ἤμελλεν γὰρ ἀποθῆναι (v. 47b; cf. Smith, 1999: 126; Wallace, 1996: 539, 627).¹¹⁴⁸ Jesus' response (in a rebuke for the official is reported in active voice, i.e., Ἐὰν μὴ σημεῖα καὶ τέρατα ἴδῃτε, οὐ μὴ πιστεύετε (v. 48; cf. Westcott, 1958: 78; Culpepper, 1983: 137).¹¹⁴⁹ The official's second utterance to Jesus is Κύριε, κατὰβηθι πρὶν ἀποθανεῖν τὸ παιδίον μου (v. 49).¹¹⁵⁰ It looks as if a repetitive reformulation of his first request in v. 47b. Jesus' response here is Πορεύου, ὁ υἱός σου ζῇ (v. 50a).¹¹⁵¹ Bennema (2009: 96) opines that, "Whereas the official first *asked* Jesus to come v. 47b (4:47), he now uses an imperative, 'Sir, *come down* before my child dies' (4:49). In turn, Jesus uses an imperative, 'Go; your son lives'". The efficacy factor of his word is well reflected in the succeeding utterances and responses of the characters (vv. 50b-54; cf. Westcott, 1958: 79; Resseguie (2001: 132) is right in saying that, "The efficacy of his word is what is important, not his physical appearance at Capernaum".¹¹⁵³ In the process of reading, the reader can

¹¹⁴⁶ Brant (2004: 38) observes that, "The οὖν appears at points of temporal or local setting (4:46; 12:1; 20:1; 21:1; 22:1; 23:1; 24:1; 25:1; 26:1; 27:1; 28:1; 29:1; 30:1; 31:1; 32:1; 33:1; 34:1; 35:1; 36:1; 37:1; 38:1; 39:1; 40:1; 41:1; 42:1; 43:1; 44:1; 45:1; 46:1; 47:1; 48:1; 49:1; 50:1; 51:1; 52:1; 53:1; 54:1; 55:1; 56:1; 57:1; 58:1; 59:1; 60:1; 61:1; 62:1; 63:1; 64:1; 65:1; 66:1; 67:1; 68:1; 69:1; 70:1; 71:1; 72:1; 73:1; 74:1; 75:1; 76:1; 77:1; 78:1; 79:1; 80:1; 81:1; 82:1; 83:1; 84:1; 85:1; 86:1; 87:1; 88:1; 89:1; 90:1; 91:1; 92:1; 93:1; 94:1; 95:1; 96:1; 97:1; 98:1; 99:1; 100:1; 101:1; 102:1; 103:1; 104:1; 105:1; 106:1; 107:1; 108:1; 109:1; 110:1; 111:1; 112:1; 113:1; 114:1; 115:1; 116:1; 117:1; 118:1; 119:1; 120:1; 121:1; 122:1; 123:1; 124:1; 125:1; 126:1; 127:1; 128:1; 129:1; 130:1; 131:1; 132:1; 133:1; 134:1; 135:1; 136:1; 137:1; 138:1; 139:1; 140:1; 141:1; 142:1; 143:1; 144:1; 145:1; 146:1; 147:1; 148:1; 149:1; 150:1; 151:1; 152:1; 153:1; 154:1; 155:1; 156:1; 157:1; 158:1; 159:1; 160:1; 161:1; 162:1; 163:1; 164:1; 165:1; 166:1; 167:1; 168:1; 169:1; 170:1; 171:1; 172:1; 173:1; 174:1; 175:1; 176:1; 177:1; 178:1; 179:1; 180:1; 181:1; 182:1; 183:1; 184:1; 185:1; 186:1; 187:1; 188:1; 189:1; 190:1; 191:1; 192:1; 193:1; 194:1; 195:1; 196:1; 197:1; 198:1; 199:1; 200:1; 201:1; 202:1; 203:1; 204:1; 205:1; 206:1; 207:1; 208:1; 209:1; 210:1; 211:1; 212:1; 213:1; 214:1; 215:1; 216:1; 217:1; 218:1; 219:1; 220:1; 221:1; 222:1; 223:1; 224:1; 225:1; 226:1; 227:1; 228:1; 229:1; 230:1; 231:1; 232:1; 233:1; 234:1; 235:1; 236:1; 237:1; 238:1; 239:1; 240:1; 241:1; 242:1; 243:1; 244:1; 245:1; 246:1; 247:1; 248:1; 249:1; 250:1; 251:1; 252:1; 253:1; 254:1; 255:1; 256:1; 257:1; 258:1; 259:1; 260:1; 261:1; 262:1; 263:1; 264:1; 265:1; 266:1; 267:1; 268:1; 269:1; 270:1; 271:1; 272:1; 273:1; 274:1; 275:1; 276:1; 277:1; 278:1; 279:1; 280:1; 281:1; 282:1; 283:1; 284:1; 285:1; 286:1; 287:1; 288:1; 289:1; 290:1; 291:1; 292:1; 293:1; 294:1; 295:1; 296:1; 297:1; 298:1; 299:1; 300:1; 301:1; 302:1; 303:1; 304:1; 305:1; 306:1; 307:1; 308:1; 309:1; 310:1; 311:1; 312:1; 313:1; 314:1; 315:1; 316:1; 317:1; 318:1; 319:1; 320:1; 321:1; 322:1; 323:1; 324:1; 325:1; 326:1; 327:1; 328:1; 329:1; 330:1; 331:1; 332:1; 333:1; 334:1; 335:1; 336:1; 337:1; 338:1; 339:1; 340:1; 341:1; 342:1; 343:1; 344:1; 345:1; 346:1; 347:1; 348:1; 349:1; 350:1; 351:1; 352:1; 353:1; 354:1; 355:1; 356:1; 357:1; 358:1; 359:1; 360:1; 361:1; 362:1; 363:1; 364:1; 365:1; 366:1; 367:1; 368:1; 369:1; 370:1; 371:1; 372:1; 373:1; 374:1; 375:1; 376:1; 377:1; 378:1; 379:1; 380:1; 381:1; 382:1; 383:1; 384:1; 385:1; 386:1; 387:1; 388:1; 389:1; 390:1; 391:1; 392:1; 393:1; 394:1; 395:1; 396:1; 397:1; 398:1; 399:1; 400:1; 401:1; 402:1; 403:1; 404:1; 405:1; 406:1; 407:1; 408:1; 409:1; 410:1; 411:1; 412:1; 413:1; 414:1; 415:1; 416:1; 417:1; 418:1; 419:1; 420:1; 421:1; 422:1; 423:1; 424:1; 425:1; 426:1; 427:1; 428:1; 429:1; 430:1; 431:1; 432:1; 433:1; 434:1; 435:1; 436:1; 437:1; 438:1; 439:1; 440:1; 441:1; 442:1; 443:1; 444:1; 445:1; 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589:1; 590:1; 591:1; 592:1; 593:1; 594:1; 595:1; 596:1; 597:1; 598:1; 599:1; 600:1; 601:1; 602:1; 603:1; 604:1; 605:1; 606:1; 607:1; 608:1; 609:1; 610:1; 611:1; 612:1; 613:1; 614:1; 615:1; 616:1; 617:1; 618:1; 619:1; 620:1; 621:1; 622:1; 623:1; 624:1; 625:1; 626:1; 627:1; 628:1; 629:1; 630:1; 631:1; 632:1; 633:1; 634:1; 635:1; 636:1; 637:1; 638:1; 639:1; 640:1; 641:1; 642:1; 643:1; 644:1; 645:1; 646:1; 647:1; 648:1; 649:1; 650:1; 651:1; 652:1; 653:1; 654:1; 655:1; 656:1; 657:1; 658:1; 659:1; 660:1; 661:1; 662:1; 663:1; 664:1; 665:1; 666:1; 667:1; 668:1; 669:1; 670:1; 671:1; 672:1; 673:1; 674:1; 675:1; 676:1; 677:1; 678:1; 679:1; 680:1; 681:1; 682:1; 683:1; 684:1; 685:1; 686:1; 687:1; 688:1; 689:1; 690:1; 691:1; 692:1; 693:1; 694:1; 695:1; 696:1; 697:1; 698:1; 699:1; 700:1; 701:1; 702:1; 703:1; 704:1; 705:1; 706:1; 707:1; 708:1; 709:1; 710:1; 711:1; 712:1; 713:1; 714:1; 715:1; 716:1; 717:1; 718:1; 719:1; 720:1; 721:1; 722:1; 723:1; 724:1; 725:1; 726:1; 727:1; 728:1; 729:1; 730:1; 731:1; 732:1; 733:1; 734:1; 735:1; 736:1; 737:1; 738:1; 739:1; 740:1; 741:1; 742:1; 743:1; 744:1; 745:1; 746:1; 747:1; 748:1; 749:1; 750:1; 751:1; 752:1; 753:1; 754:1; 755:1; 756:1; 757:1; 758:1; 759:1; 760:1; 761:1; 762:1; 763:1; 764:1; 765:1; 766:1; 767:1; 768:1; 769:1; 770:1; 771:1; 772:1; 773:1; 774:1; 775:1; 776:1; 777:1; 778:1; 779:1; 780:1; 781:1; 782:1; 783:1; 784:1; 785:1; 786:1; 787:1; 788:1; 789:1; 790:1; 791:1; 792:1; 793:1; 794:1; 795:1; 796:1; 797:1; 798:1; 799:1; 800:1; 801:1; 802:1; 803:1; 804:1; 805:1; 806:1; 807:1; 808:1; 809:1; 810:1; 811:1; 812:1; 813:1; 814:1; 815:1; 816:1; 817:1; 818:1; 819:1; 820:1; 821:1; 822:1; 823:1; 824:1; 825:1; 826:1; 827:1; 828:1; 829:1; 830:1; 831:1; 832:1; 833:1; 834:1; 835:1; 836:1; 837:1; 838:1; 839:1; 840:1; 841:1; 842:1; 843:1; 844:1; 845:1; 846:1; 847:1; 848:1; 849:1; 850:1; 851:1; 852:1; 853:1; 854:1; 855:1; 856:1; 857:1; 858:1; 859:1; 860:1; 861:1; 862:1; 863:1; 864:1; 865:1; 866:1; 867:1; 868:1; 869:1; 870:1; 871:1; 872:1; 873:1; 874:1; 875:1; 876:1; 877:1; 878:1; 879:1; 880:1; 881:1; 882:1; 883:1; 884:1; 885:1; 886:1; 887:1; 888:1; 889:1; 890:1; 891:1; 892:1; 893:1; 894:1; 895:1; 896:1; 897:1; 898:1; 899:1; 900:1; 901:1; 902:1; 903:1; 904:1; 905:1; 906:1; 907:1; 908:1; 909:1; 910:1; 911:1; 912:1; 913:1; 914:1; 915:1; 916:1; 917:1; 918:1; 919:1; 920:1; 921:1; 922:1; 923:1; 924:1; 925:1; 926:1; 927:1; 928:1; 929:1; 930:1; 931:1; 932:1; 933:1; 934:1; 935:1; 936:1; 937:1; 938:1; 939:1; 940:1; 941:1; 942:1; 943:1; 944:1; 945:1; 946:1; 947:1; 948:1; 949:1; 950:1; 951:1; 952:1; 953:1; 954:1; 955:1; 956:1; 957:1; 958:1; 959:1; 960:1; 961:1; 962:1; 963:1; 964:1; 965:1; 966:1; 967:1; 968:1; 969:1; 970:1; 971:1; 972:1; 973:1; 974:1; 975:1; 976:1; 977:1; 978:1; 979:1; 980:1; 981:1; 982:1; 983:1; 984:1; 985:1; 986:1; 987:1; 988:1; 989:1; 990:1; 991:1; 992:1; 993:1; 994:1; 995:1; 996:1; 997:1; 998:1; 999:1; 1000:1".

¹¹⁴⁷ Womack (2011: 38-9) says that, "... the dialogue in a story is in inverted commas, or as people say, 'inverted commas'. These marks identify the words they frame as originating from someone other than the writer of the rest of the text and they are used frequently and vitally for this purpose in non-fictional writing..." In order to know more about the use of 'direct' and 'indirect' speech in fictions and novels, see Womack, 2011: 38-46. Bennema (2009: 95) says that, "The official's request shows that he knows or has heard about Jesus' ability to perform miracles. His foreknowledge about Jesus and the urgency of the situation might have prompted the official to approach Jesus with the specific request."

¹¹⁴⁸ Robertson (1932: 75) points out that, "When he heard (*akousas*). First aorist active participle of *akouō*. It spread rapidly about Jesus. *Was come* (*hēkei*). Present active indicative of *hēkō*, one of the perfective presents in indirect discourse". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 117; Newman and Nida, 1980: 137; Barrett, 1978: 247.

¹¹⁴⁹ Carson (1991: 238) is of the opinion that, "These words [of Jesus; v. 48], addressed to the Galileans at Capernaum, not just to the royal official, dominate the account and reinforce the impression that the welcome accorded Jesus was fundamentally flawed, based as it was on too great a focus on miraculous signs (v. 45; 25)". Nicol (1972: 29, 104-5) says that, "These words are inconsistent with the fact that the officer's question implies belief, that he did not ask the miracle as legitimation of Jesus, and that according to v. 50, he believed in Jesus without seeing anything". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 118; Blomberg, 2001: 106; Barrett, 1978: 247-8.

¹¹⁵⁰ Robertson (1932: 75-6) states that, "Regular idiom with *prin* in positive clause, second aorist active participle of *apothnēskō* and accusative of general reference, 'before dying as to my child'". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 248; Carson, 1991: 238; Newman and Nida, 1980: 138; Bruce, 1983: 118.

¹¹⁵¹ Nicol (1972: 55) says that, "The words of Jesus in v. 50a might be an indirect quotation of the words addressed to Elijah to the widow after he had raised her son from death: Βλέπε, ζῇ ὁ υἱός σου (1 Kings 17:23—the same from which the possible quotation of 2:4 was taken)". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 248; Robertson, 1932: 76.

¹¹⁵² Carson (1991: 239) states that, "His [official's] urgent prayer for help wins the Master's healing powers. He accepts Jesus' words and departs, thus demonstrating that he, unlike most Galileans, is not simply interested in signs and wonders (v. 48)".

¹¹⁵³ Dodd (1960: 318) opines that, "... the life-giving Word is the pivot of the story".

understand the overarching content of the first slot (vv. 46-50) that is framed within a *request-rebuke-response* sequence (see Table 36).¹¹⁵⁴

John 4:46-54	Overview
<p>Slot One</p> <p>v.46: Ἦλθεν οὖν πάλιν εἰς τὴν Κανὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας, ὅπου ἐποίησεν τὸ ὕδωρ οἶνον. καὶ ἦν τις βασιλικὸς οὗ ὁ υἱὸς ἡσθένει ἐν Καφαρναούμ.</p> <p>v.47: οὗτος ἀκούσας ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ἦκει ἐκ τῆς Ἰουδαίας εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν ἀπῆλθεν πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ ἡρώτα ἵνα καταβῇ καὶ ἰάσῃται αὐτοῦ τὸν υἱόν, ἥμελλεν γὰρ ἀποθνήσκειν.</p> <p>v.48: εἶπεν οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς πρὸς αὐτόν, Ἐὰν μὴ σημεῖα καὶ τέρατα ἴδῃτε, οὐ μὴ πιστεύσητε.</p> <p>v.49: λέγει πρὸς αὐτόν ὁ βασιλικός, Κύριε, κατέβηθι πρὶν ἀποθάνειν τὸ παιδίον μου.</p> <p>v.50: λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Πορεύου, ὁ υἱός σου ζῇ. ἐπίστευσεν ὁ ἄνθρωπος τῷ λόγῳ ὃν εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἐπορεύετο.</p> <p>Slot Two</p> <p>v.51: ἦδη δὲ αὐτοῦ καταβαίνοντος οἱ δοῦλοι αὐτοῦ ὑπῆντησαν αὐτῷ λέγοντες ὅτι ὁ παῖς αὐτοῦ ζῇ.</p> <p>v.52: ἐπύθετο οὖν τὴν ὥραν παρ' αὐτῶν ἐν ᾗ κομψότερον ἔσχεν· εἶπαν οὖν αὐτῷ ὅτι Ἐχθὲς ὥραν ἐβδόμην ἀφήκεν αὐτόν ὁ πυρετός.</p> <p>v.53: ἔγνω οὖν ὁ πατήρ ὅτι [ἐν] ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ ἐν ᾗ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ὁ υἱός σου ζῇ, καὶ ἐπίστευσεν αὐτὸς καὶ ἡ οἰκία αὐτοῦ ὅλη.</p> <p>v.54: Τοῦτο [δὲ] πάλιν δεύτερον σημεῖον ἐποίησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐλθὼν ἐκ τῆς Ἰουδαίας εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν.</p>	<p>(1) While the first slot (vv. 46-50) has four utterance units (one 'passive voice' and three 'active voice'; vv. 47b, 48b, 49b, 50a), the second slot (vv. 51-54) has three utterance units (two 'passive voice' and one 'active voice'; vv. 51b, 52a, 52b). Out of the seven utterance units three are of the royal official (vv. 47b, 49b, 52a), two are of Jesus (vv. 48b, 50a), and two are of the slaves (vv. 51b, 52b);</p> <p>(2) A reader can see implicit references about dialogues in v. 44 (i.e., "for Jesus himself testified..."), v. 45a (i.e., "the Galileans welcomed him"), v. 47a (i.e., "when he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee"), in v. 53a (i.e., the father's realization about the hour of Jesus' speech and the memory statement), and in v. 53b (i.e., the expression of belief in the household);</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the slot are: pure narratives (vv. 43-45, 46, 50b, 53-54) and formula narratives (v. 47b, 48a, 49a, 50a, 51a, 52a, 52b).</p>

Table 36: The dialogue of 4:43-54 within the narratorial framework

The second slot (vv. 51-53a) has the following dialogic sequence. Royal man's slaves meet him on the way¹¹⁵⁵ (ἐπορεύετο) and reports that ὁ παῖς αὐτοῦ ζῇ (v. 51). The Royal man's inquiry (ἐπύθετο) to the slaves is: τὴν ὥραν παρ' αὐτῶν ἐν ᾗ κομψότερον ἔσχεν· (v. 52a).¹¹⁵⁶ Both the slaves' information and the Royal man's response are recorded in passive voice form (cf. Womack, 2011: 38-46). The slaves' response to him is: Ἐχθὲς ὥραν ἐβδόμην ἀφήκεν αὐτόν ὁ πυρετός (v. 52b; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 133). In v. 53a the narrator reports the Royal man's realisation or recollection of Jesus' words: Ὁ υἱός σου ζῇ (v. 50a; cf. Westcott, 1958: 79; Quast, 1991/1996: 38). The second slot is working within the framework of the first slot and leading

¹¹⁵⁴ Stibbe (1993: 70) observes that, "It is important to note the echoes with the first Cana miracle. The basic form of the two narratives is the same". The following similarities are important to note down: *first, Request*: mother to Jesus, about wine/father to Jesus, about son; *second, Rebuke*: 'what has this to do with me'/'unless you see signs and wonders . . .'; and *third, Response*: miracle/miracle.

¹¹⁵⁵ Carson (1991: 238) states that, "While he is still *on the way*, lit. 'on the way down', the official runs into his servants who are bearing news of the restoration of his son".

¹¹⁵⁶ Brodie (1993: 227) observes that, "It is hardly coincidence that even the hour at which the child receives life ('the seventh hour', 4:52) is just one hour beyond the time at which the woman asked for living water ('the sixth hour', 4:6). Such a progression, from one number to the next, is frequent in biblical poetry and, as such, would seem to be applicable also, in some degree at least, to biblical narrative".

toward belief-affirmation. The narrator concludes both the first and the second slots in a fashion (see Robertson, 1932: 76).¹¹⁵⁷ In both cases the utterance of Jesus (i.e., ὁ υἱός σου repeated, one from Jesus' own mouth (v. 50a) and another as a memory statement (v. 50b).¹¹⁵⁸ Resseguie, 2001: 132-3; see Table 36).¹¹⁵⁸ The implied interactive phrases like ἐμαρτύρησεν (v. 44), ἐδέξαντο αὐτὸν οἱ Γαλιλαῖοι (v. 45), οὗτος ἀκούσας ὅτι Ἰησοῦς (v. 46) καὶ ἐπίστευσεν αὐτὸς καὶ ἡ οἰκία αὐτοῦ ὅλη (v. 53b) contribute to the dialogic trend episode.¹¹⁵⁹ The characters of the story are Jesus, the royal official,¹¹⁶⁰ his son, the slaves, household; but only Jesus, the royal official and the slaves appear on the stage for explicit interactions (cf. Westcott, 1958: 78-9).

In the story, Jesus is viewed as a sign performer and a healer through dialogue.¹¹⁶¹ The man's faith develops at least through three stages: *first*, he believes through hearing and seeing Jesus (v. 47); *second*, dialogued with Jesus and believed the word that he spoke (v. 50); and *third*, after hearing about the sign and seeing that by his own eyes, he himself is along with his whole household (i.e., it develops as the third setting of the story, v. 53b; cf. 1972: 73-4; Quast, 1991/1996: 38).¹¹⁶² Bennema (2009: 97; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 137; 1992: 119) is right in saying that, "The royal official shows remarkable development of faith through interaction with Jesus".¹¹⁶³ The royal official's movements, as one who hears about Jesus, approaches him, returns after hearing his word (τῷ λόγῳ), and believes in him along with his household, are transformative in nature.¹¹⁶⁴

¹¹⁵⁷ Dodd (1960: 318) says that, "The word itself is significant: it is thrice repeated: 'Ο υἱός σου ζῆ (4:50, 51 and 53) second time παῖς replaces υἱός with no difference of meaning)".

¹¹⁵⁸ Stibbe (1993: 71; cf. Nicol, 1972: 55, 107; Brodie, 1993: 230) is of the view that, "The threefold use of υἱός (4:50, 51 and 53 ('Your son will live') reminds the reader of the allusions to Jesus as the giver of life (3:16, 36; 4:14)."

¹¹⁵⁹ The expressions like Ἰησοῦς ἐμαρτύρησεν (v. 44), ἐδέξαντο αὐτὸν οἱ Γαλιλαῖοι (v. 45), and οὗτος ἀκούσας ὅτι Ἰησοῦς (v. 46) are implicitly referring the possibilities of character interactions and dialogues. Cf. Carson, 1991: 233-40; Newman and Nida, 1980: 137-40; Barrett, 1978: 247-9.

¹¹⁶⁰ Kanagaraj (2005: 161) states that, "We do not know whether this official was a Jew or a Gentile. The story of the healing of the centurion's servant (Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10), has convinced some scholars that he was a Gentile".

¹¹⁶¹ Nicol (1972: 31, 113) opines that, "With the exception of vv. 48-50 which are apparently a Johannine creation, the pericope seems to be basically traditional, especially the detailed proof of the miracle in vv. 51-3, which character of sign".

¹¹⁶² Painter (1993: 211) states that, "In the final miracle quest story no christological categories are used. Instead, the learning of the efficacy of Jesus' life-giving word it is said of the nobleman that 'he believed and his whole household' (4:53). When, in the narrative, Jesus' life-giving word was pronounced, the narrator indicated that 'the man believed Jesus' word' (4:50). Believing Jesus' word, in John, is significant belief".

¹¹⁶³ Blomberg (2001: 107) says that, "Verse 54 concludes the episode, highlighting John's focus on the true character of the miracle as a 'sign', that is, designed to generate more mature, genuine faith in Jesus". Quast (1991/1996: 38) says that, "The word of Jesus is unfettered by spatial, temporal, or racial constraints. Jesus has the power to begin, both physically and spiritually, to all who can accept his word in faith".

¹¹⁶⁴ Neyrey (2007: 100; cf. Robinson, 1980: 255-63) observes that, "... just as Jesus led the Samaritan woman and her people of her town to faith (4:42), so here he is able to evoke in the official a correct and humble acknowledgement of himself. The result is that his request is finally granted and he and his whole household are 'believed' in Jesus". Cf. Carson, 1991: 233-40; Newman and Nida, 1980: 137-40; Barrett, 1978: 247-9.

The form of the dialogue can be determined only on the basis of a thorough examination of several talk units (cf. Chandler, 2002/2007: 189). Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 107; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 100; Talbert, 1992: 119) opine that, “This account may be another variant of the healing story in Matthew 8:5-13 and Luke 7:1-10. It takes place in Cana, the location of the ‘first sign’, which Jesus did in Galilee. Both signs elicit belief (2:11; 4:53)”. The syntactic structure of John 4:43-54 can be outlined as follows: *first*, the itinerary *introduction and conclusion* (vv. 43-45);¹¹⁶⁵ and *second*, another Cana sign story (vv. 46-54). The little dialogic narrative can further be classified as follows on the basis of its development: *first*, itinerary and welcome (vv. 43-45); *second*, introducing the specific setting (v. 46a-47a); *third*, dialogue between Jesus and the royal official (vv. 47b-50a); *fourth*, the narratorial continues: the second setting and the abbreviated dialogue (vv. 50b-53b; cf. Westcott, 1956: 79); and *fifth*, concluding the story at the third setting (v. 53b-54).¹¹⁶⁶ A *proverbial statement* is included in v. 44 as a *narratorial note* (cf. Lindars, 1972: 200).¹¹⁶⁷ John 4:46-54 forms a *little inclusion* within the narrative as vv. 46 and 54 develop a *parenthesis*.¹¹⁶⁸ Stibbe (1993: 72) says that, “The story is based on a chiastic structure, with an *inclusio* between the introduction and the conclusion, and with the theme of the royal official’s faith acting as the centrepiece and focus of the reader’s attention”.¹¹⁶⁹ A *larger Cana-to-Cana inclusion* is formed when we connect the present Cana story (vv. 46-54) with the previous Cana incident (cf. 2:1-11; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 461; Stibbe, 1993: 71).

Utterance	Form	Content
Officer (passive voice)	Request	Jesus needs to come down and heal his son, as he is at the point of death
Jesus	Rebuke, unexpected statement	Royal man’s belief based on signs and wonders
Officer	Request, invitation	Jesus needs to come down before the boy dies
Jesus	Command, positive response	Assurance to the royal man concerning the recovery of his son: “Your son will live”
Slaves (passive voice)	Positive information, glad tidings	The royal man’s son is alive
Officer (passive voice)	Question, inquiry	Time of his son’s recovery
Slaves	Exact information, glad tidings	Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him
Officer’s memory	Memory statement	“Your son will live”

Table 37: ‘Form’ and ‘Content’ of utterance units in John 4:43-54

¹¹⁶⁵ John’s use of the literary device *introduction and conclusion* (vv. 43-45; cf. 2:23-25) serves both as a conclusion to the previous section (vv. 1-42) and as an introduction to the latter section (vv. 46-54; cf. Blomberg, 2001: 105-6).

¹¹⁶⁶ Quast (1991/1996: 38) opines that, “The father starts with a faith based on the wondrous character of miracles (v. 48), moves to hope for his son based on the word of Jesus (v. 50), and finally arrives at the fuller understanding that Jesus offers life to all people (v. 53)”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 244-9; Carson, 1991: 233-9; Bruce, 1983: 116-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 133-40.

¹¹⁶⁷ John has inserted a proverbial saying of Jesus which does not seem to fit. It is found in all three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 13:57; Mark 6:4; Luke 4:24) and also in the *Gos. Thom.*, 31.

¹¹⁶⁸ Westcott (1958: 79) points out that, “The point lies in the relation of the two miracles as marking two visits to Cana, separated by a visit to Jerusalem. The form of the phrase corresponds with that in 2:11”. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 77; Brodie, 1993: 231-2; Sloyan, 1988: 51; Maniparampil, 2004: 237-8; Smith, 1999: 124-5; Brodie, 1993: 226-7; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 199.

¹¹⁶⁹ Stibbe (1993: 71) outlines the chiastic structure as follows: A: The visit to Galilee, reference to first sign (v. 46a); B: ‘Your son will live’ (vv. 46b-50a); C: The faith of the official (v. 50b); B’: ‘Your son will live’ (vv. 51-53); and A’: The visit to Galilee, reference to signs (v. 54).

The narrative of the story can also be structured on the basis of the royal man's developments and dramatic movements (Stibbe, 1993: 72): *first*, he comes to Cana with belief, and Jesus criticises him by saying that "unless you see signs and wonders you believe" (v. 48); *second*, he departs Cana and goes on his way as he "believed the word th spoke to him" (v. 50b); and *third*, after hearing from the slaves and, finally, seeing by his o "he himself believed along with his whole household" (vv. 51-53; cf. Westcott, 1956; Michaels, 1984/1989: 78-81; see Diagram 29).¹¹⁷⁰ Beasley-Murray (1987: 73; cf. Dodd, 1931: 318-9; Culpepper, 1983: 137) is of the opinion that, "Along with the emphasis on the Jesus, the narrative reveals a corresponding progression in the officer's faith (vv. 48, 50, 53). Though charactorial utterances are presented mostly in active voice forms, in some cases, they are reproduced in passive voice forms (cf. vv. 47b, 51, 52a; cf. Womack, 2011: 38-46). It is an oriented and dramatic dialogue (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-207), more narratorial than dialogical, moving from A to B, B to A" sequential.¹¹⁷² The characters use utterance forms, like *request* (v. 47b), *request* (v. 48),¹¹⁷³ *invitation* (v. 49), *command/positive response* (v. 50a), *positive information/gladness* (vv. 51b, 52b),¹¹⁷⁴ *question/inquiry* (v. 52a), *exact information* (v. 52b), and *memory statement* (v. 53a; cf. 50a), during the process of their verbal interactions (cf. Robertson, 1932: 74-7; see also 37).¹¹⁷⁵ The language of the episode reflects both the literal and figurative meanings.¹¹⁷⁶

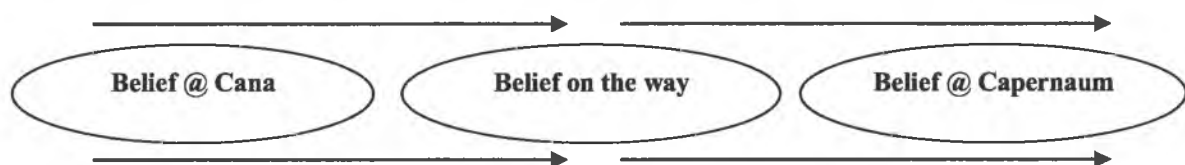


Diagram 29: The process of development of belief

¹¹⁷⁰ Robertson (1932: 77) says that, "All his family, the first example of a whole family believing in Jesus like the case of Crispus (Acts 18:8)". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 244-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 133-40; Bruce, 1983: 116-9.

¹¹⁷¹ Similarly, Carson (1991: 238) has the view that, "The sweeping rebuke Jesus offers may also be uttered as inducement to the official's faith". Brant (2004: 205) says that, "The narrator also shows a particular interior disposition of belief: 'The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way' (4:50)".

¹¹⁷² Duke (1985: 95-6) observes that, "Some characters in John's Gospel are never ironized: Jesus, the Disciple, Lazarus, John the Baptist, and the *basilikos* of 4:46-54, to name a few".

¹¹⁷³ Witherington (1995: 128; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 131) states, "Jesus' response in v. 48 seems and is brusque: 'Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe'". Brant (2004: 48) says that, "... the royal official begs Jesus to perform his role as wonder-worker, Jesus seems to lament: 'Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe'".

¹¹⁷⁴ Brant (2004: 111) says that, "Most of the events of the Fourth Gospel are narrated, but many are brought to the audience's eyes by characters' speech The slaves report the healing of the royal official's son (4:52)".

¹¹⁷⁵ Bennema (2009: 97; cf. Witherington, 1995: 128-9) suggests the following things about the character of the royal official: "The royal official proves to be more than a flat character. He has multiple traits: (1) his willingness to listen to Jesus in person and submit to his authority illustrates humility; (2) he is persistent, not deterred by Jesus' miracle in 4:48; (3) his inquiry and his deduction about the efficacy of Jesus' word shows that he is meticulous and a good listener; (4) he is a persuasive witness to his household". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 133-40; Bruce, 1983: 116-9; Barrett, 1978: 244-9; Carson, 1991: 233-9.

¹¹⁷⁶ Resseguie (2001: 132) says that, "The royal official also seems to think that Jesus' presence is necessary for his son to live, and therefore he repeatedly asks Jesus 'come down' to Capernaum; but Jesus refuses to descend to that level both literally and figuratively".

The plot-shape of the narrative is similar to that of the plot-shape of the larger Johannine narrative (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53). Stibbe (1993: 73; cf. Bennema, 2009: 96; Resseguie, 2005: 197-240) states that, “The father’s request for Jesus’ κατάβασις to Capernaum helps to keep the overall *U-shaped plot* of the gospel (the descent and ascent of Jesus) in the mind of the reader”. By keeping the above discussions in mind, one can understand the overarching trend of the dialogue in the following way. In the first slot: *first*, the Royal official comes up with a request concerning the illness of his son; *second*, Jesus rebukes the tendency of believing on the basis of signs and wonders; and *third*, later, Jesus responds positively.¹¹⁷⁷ Thus a *request-rebuke-response* sequence is maintained, as in the case of the first Cana incident (2:1-11; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 100; Culpepper, 1983: 137).¹¹⁷⁸ The second slot can be considered as an attempt to appropriate the first slot by way of an interaction between the official and the slaves. Similar ending of both the slots (vv. 50a, 53a) is a proof for the narratorial interconnectedness. The narrator builds tension within the narratorial world through characterial utterances (v. 48). It helps the story to advance from suspense to surprise. While Bultmann (1968: 209-43; cf. Talbert, 1992: 119; Smith, 1999: 127) considers the story in many ways as a typical miracle story,¹¹⁷⁹ Brodie (1993: 226) considers it both a story of faith and a powerful father-son story.¹¹⁸⁰ As Bultmann and Brodie suggest, a reader can notice the way elements of narrative shape a ‘miracle story’/‘story of faith’/‘father-son story’. The *request-rebuke-response* dialogue adds flavour to the syntactic development of the episode (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 71).¹¹⁸¹

The dialogue of John 4:46-54 functions as follows. The tendency of abbreviating narratives and putting utterances into ‘passive voice’ forms (see vv. 47b, 51b, 52a) is yet another time identified here.¹¹⁸² Instead of presenting the story in a rather narratorial or ‘passive voice’ format, the narrator incorporates utterance units in ‘active voice’ for the sake of inviting reader’s attention (cf.

¹¹⁷⁷ Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 477) concludes that, “4:43-54 should be considered as the conclusion of the first part of the ministry of Jesus, in which the evangelist begins to depict Jesus as the Messiah sent by God, the heavenly revealer who gives life to men. Here too the forces of faith and unbelief are seen at work, and the reader can sense the future development”. See Bruce, 1983: 116-9; Barrett, 1978: 244-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 133-40.

¹¹⁷⁸ Painter (1993: 208; cf. Witherington, 1995: 127) says that, “The typical miracle story is set out as follows: (1) Problem stated; (2) Request made; (3) Manner of miracle is described; (4) Successful outcome announced; (5) Response of wonder described”.

¹¹⁷⁹ Painter (1993: 209; also see Painter, 1989: 27-28) opines that, “The miracle quest story is a sub-type of the quest story and John 4:46-54 belongs to this sub-type”.

¹¹⁸⁰ Bennema (2009: 95) opines that, “We must bear in mind that the focus is on the official and not on his ill son. The boy’s healing, though significant, is simply a foil for the official’s response to Jesus”.

¹¹⁸¹ Giblin (1980: 197-211; cf. Duke, 1985: 168) narrates about the “suggestion, negative response, and positive action” portrayal of John in 2:1-11; 4:46-54; 7:2-14; 11:1-44.

¹¹⁸² Abbreviating tendencies are common in John (as in the case of any other literary masterpieces) as the narrator attempts to recapitulate the events, utterances, acts and actions of the extended narrative. For the narrator, each word, dialogue, and interlocutors are important. In several cases, Jesus’ words and the context of the dialogue are given more prominence in the narrative on the detriment of the actual dialogue between the interlocutors. Cf. Brown, 1966: 190-8; Milne, 1993: 91-3; Morris, 1995: 256-8; Moloney, 1998: 150-6.

Womack, 2011: 38-45). The aspects like ‘believing after dialoguing’ (v. 50b)¹¹⁸³ and ‘believing after seeing’¹¹⁸⁴ (53b) are highlighted in order to encourage the reader to be responsive to ‘utterances’ (cf. vv. 47b, 49), ‘hearing’ (cf. v. 50b) and ‘seeing’ (cf. v. 53; cf. Rieu, 1987/1997: 176-8; Moore, 1989: 41-56).¹¹⁸⁵ The royal man’s belief develops the following way: the dialogue progresses: he comes to Cana to invite Jesus’ physical presence to Capernaum. Jesus criticises his shallow faith based on signs and wonders (cf. Painter, 1993: 210; Rieu, 1987/1997: 175-6).¹¹⁸⁶ The verbal exchange between the royal man and Jesus ends with him believing in the word that Jesus utters (vv. 47b-50). The royal man’s interactions with the slaves and the recollection statement show the development of his belief. The narrative culminates when he believes with his whole household believe in Jesus.¹¹⁸⁷ Talbert (1992: 120) states that, “Faith is portrayed as a process, with miracle functioning in different ways within it: both as a catalyst for faith and as a confirmation of it”. Here the dialogue of Jesus with the royal man calls the reader to a response of the reader toward unconditional belief (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 41-86).

John highlights one of the peculiar features of Jesus’ ministry in the episode, i.e., ‘the time of wonder’ (cf. vv. 50b, 52b-53a; see Resseguie, 2001: 133).¹¹⁸⁸ This faith is affirmed through the recollection statement in v. 53, i.e., ‘ο υἱός σου ζῇ’ (cf. vv. 50, 53a; cf. Bennema, 2009: 96; Quast, 1991/1996: 38).¹¹⁸⁹ It functions as a major rhetorical statement in the episode on following grounds: *first*, the royal official departs Jesus after hearing this statement (v. 50a) and he recollects it after hearing the good news from the slaves (v. 53a); *second*, it is pronounced as a ‘power-generating statement’ in order to send the official back to home.

¹¹⁸³ Witherington (1995: 130) says that, “There is a sense in which those who believe on the basis of the word have a stronger faith than those who will believe only on the basis of an observed work”.

¹¹⁸⁴ For more about seeing and believing in John, see Chakkuvarackal, 2007: 35-53. The common Jewish term ‘believing after seeing’ (also see 20: 29; cf. 1 Cor 1:22) is brought up as a case here. The episode also emphasises the factor that Jesus’ interlocutors “believe after dialoguing” (v. 50b).

¹¹⁸⁵ The royal man’s dialogue with Jesus is the starting point of his faith journey; his hearing of the ‘words of Jesus’ enabled him to strengthen his belief and return back to Capernaum, and, finally, seeing the miracle by his own eyes (along with his whole household) to believe in Jesus. The main themes of the narrative are signs and wonders, belief, and they lead the readers to commitment and action. The same time, the general tendency of the pericope ‘believing after seeing signs and wonders’; v. 48) is brought to the notice of the reading audience (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 137; Court, 1997: 1-86). Also see Köstenberger, 2004: 168-72; Brown, 1966: 190-8; Milne, 1993: 91-3; Morris, 1995: 256-8; Moloney, 1998: 150-6.

¹¹⁸⁶ Stibbe (1993: 72; cf. Brodie, 1993: 232-3; Smith, 1999: 125-9) says that, “. . . he [royal man] is representative of the Jewish people. When the official hears Jesus’ words, ‘Your son will live’, the narrator tells us that ‘τὸ ἄνθρωπος’ took Jesus at his word and departed’ (v. 50)”.

¹¹⁸⁷ Culpepper (1983: 137) states that, “The Samaritans had believed because of Jesus’ word (4:41). The official shows a willingness to believe apart from signs (4:50). Belief in Jesus’ assurance of healing then gives life to the official, and the official and all his house believe (4:53)”. Cf. Milne, 1993: 91-3; Moloney, 1998: 150-6; Brown, 1966: 190-8; Köstenberger, 2004: 168-72; Morris, 1995: 256-8.

¹¹⁸⁸ Bennema (2009: 96) says that, “The official wants the physical presence of Jesus (perhaps because the workers usually interact directly with the ill person), but Jesus indicates that this is not necessary”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 168-72; Moloney, 1998: 150-6; Brown, 1966: 190-8; Milne, 1993: 91-3; Morris, 1995: 256-8.

¹¹⁸⁹ The coherence of the narrative sequence rhetorically persuades the reader. Cf. Funk, 1988: 85-91; Robbins, 1989.

heal his son;¹¹⁹⁰ *third*, it was uttered during a dialogical discourse and was a means for the royal man for his gradual development of faith; and *fourth*, those words were remained as words of joy for the entire household (cf. Resseguie, 2001: 132-3; Elam, 1980: 135-207).¹¹⁹¹ Here the repetitive language of the narrator performatively interlocks the reader with the text (cf. Caird, 1980: 183-97; Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67).¹¹⁹² The narrator presents the voice of the characters along with their acts and actions (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Tan, 1993: 26-93).¹¹⁹³ “The characters’ dialogue is”, as Steve Gooch (2001: 51; cf. Womack, 2011: 91; Elam, 1980: 135-7) observes that, “‘hanging on them like a coat’, and so the verbal idiom, like the coat, has to be recognisably something the viewers can imagine wearing themselves”. Though the narrator’s dialogue with the historical reader is the dominant factor of the episode, the dialogue between the interlocutors controls the development of the story (cf. Green, 2003: 11-66; Booth, 1961: 149-63). The dialogue of the narrator with the contemporary reader is also at focus as the story has an eternal appeal (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 15-6; Lee, 2004: 163-218).¹¹⁹⁴ The *request-rebuke-response*¹¹⁹⁵ format of the dialogue coheres with the first Cana sign-dialogue (cf. 2:1-11; cf. Tolmie, 1999: 22).¹¹⁹⁶ In the process of reading the implied reader is challenged by the ‘death to life’ theme of the story and develops her/his own faith.¹¹⁹⁷ While the content of the overall dialogue is the life-giving aspect of Jesus, a *request-rebuke-response* format is used for conveying the message. And it functions as a rhetorical piece for inviting the reader’s attention toward Jesus who is the giver of life.

¹¹⁹⁰ Jesus’ utterance in v. 50 is recorded as a statement of power and the official recollects it as a statement of glory (v. 53; either on the way or at Capernaum). Jesus’ words are rhetorically adorned and power-generating, and that gives a special force to the narrative (cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 381-418; Windisch, 1923/1993: 25-64).

¹¹⁹¹ Quast (1991/1996: 38-39) concludes by saying that, “The word of Jesus is unfettered by spatial, temporal, or racial constraints. Jesus has the power to give a new beginning, both physically and spiritually, to all who can accept his word in faith”. See Milne, 1993: 91-3; Köstenberger, 2004: 168-72; Moloney, 1998: 150-6; Morris, 1995: 256-8; Brown, 1966: 190-8.

¹¹⁹² In order to know further about “the Grandeur of Johannine Rhetoric”, refer to Black, 1996: 220-39. Also see Greimas, 1987: 63-83; Lothe, 2000: 3-10.

¹¹⁹³ So far Jesus is introduced as a traveller who travels from Judea to Galilee, Galilee to Judea, Judea to Samaria, and again from Samaria to Galilee. Jesus’ character is magnificent, approachable, and beneficiary for the rest of the interlocutors. Jesus is also presented before the interlocutors and the readers as a ‘sign performer’ and ‘wonder-worker’ all through the Gospel (cf. Smith, 1999: 125-9; Brodie, 1993: 226-33). Jesus is ‘communicative’ through his words, acts, and actions, and generates alacrity among the readers (cf. Booth, 1961: 160-2; Chatman, 1978: 31-4). See Morris, 1995: 256-8; Brown, 1966: 190-8; Moloney, 1998: 150-6; Milne, 1993: 91-3.

¹¹⁹⁴ The story’s eternal appeal provides meaningful insights for a contemporary reader to take up. See Moloney, 1998: 150-6; Köstenberger, 2004: 168-72; Brown, 1966: 190-8; Morris, 1995: 256-8; Milne, 1993: 91-3.

¹¹⁹⁵ Milne (1993: 91) opines that, “. . . the apparent refusal provokes a fuller and more earnest request, ‘Sir, come down before my child dies’ (v. 49). It is not a moment for discussion of the niceties of faith; action is needed!”

¹¹⁹⁶ Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 461; cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 81) says that, “With the passage 4:43-54, the evangelist rounds off the whole section dealing with the beginning of revelation”.

¹¹⁹⁷ Powell (1990: 15; cf. Funk, 1988: 27-58; Reinhartz, 2001: 17-31; Vorster, 2009: 505-78; Servotte, 1992/1994: 26-7) states that, “. . . narrative criticism interprets the text from the perspective of an idealized *implied reader* who is presupposed by and constructed from the text itself”.

6.3. Meso-Analysis

The content, the form, and the function of the dialogue invite the reader's attention to rhetorical aspects (cf. Barwise, 1988: 25-8; Hellholm, 1986: 13-54). Instead of *dialogue to action* or an *action to dialogue* format, here the narrator uses 'the time of dialogue' or 'the time of sign' phenomenon (cf. Dodd, 1960: 318-9; Chandler, 2002/2007: 189).¹¹⁹⁸ The content of the dialogue (i.e., Jesus is the giver of life) demands his interlocutor's development of a journey of faith (cf. Tan, 1993: 50-89; Press, 2007: 55-74). In vv. 43-54, two dialogue-slots (vv. 46-50, 51-53) are identified and they are wrapped up in narratives (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 70-74). The narrator of the story uses a *request-rebuke-response* dialogue format and that invites the reader toward Jesus' life-giving ministry (cf. Painter, 1993: 211; see Table 38).¹¹⁹⁹ The narratorial elements like the Galileans' welcome of Jesus and the *analeptic statement* about his previous involvement in Jerusalem, are brought to the notice of the reader in v. 45.¹²⁰⁰ In vv. 46-54, the narrator combines five major literary elements: first, *pure narratives*;¹²⁰¹ second, *formula narratives*;¹²⁰² third, *active voice utterances* (cf. Womack, 2011: 38-46); fourth, *passive voice utterances*;¹²⁰³ and fifth, a *memory statement* (cf. Chatman, 1978: 146-95).¹²⁰⁴ In vv. 53b-54, the narrator emphasizes the believing aspect of the whole household and the sequence between the first Cana incident and the present one (cf. Okure, 1998: 1543; Neyrey, 2007: 100).¹²⁰⁵ Both the major slot (vv. 47b-50) and the complimentary slot (vv. 51-53a) of the episode are filled with dramatic actions and

¹¹⁹⁸ Robertson (1932: 76) states that, "Words too good and gracious to be true. His son is healed without going to Capernaum, 'absent treatment' so to speak, but without the cure being absent". Cf. Barrett, 1971: 197; Bruce, 1983: 116-9; Stibbe, 1993: 70-3; Carson, 1991: 233-9; Bennema, 2009: 94-9; Blomberg, 2001: 104-7.

¹¹⁹⁹ Köstenberger (2004: 166; cf. Carson, 1991: 233-4; Moloney, 1998: 151) says that, "The story resembles the Gentile centurion in Matthew 8:5-13 and Luke 7:2-10, but this is not the same incident. The literary structure of the story resembles that of 4:39-42". The *conclusion and introduction* section identifies Jesus as an itinerant agent of God's mission (vv. 43-45; cf. Blum, 1993/2004: 288). Jesus, as a traveller through the regions of Judea, Samaria and Galilee, steps into all the regions (cf. Okure, 1998: 1543; Kermode, 1987: 451-52).

¹²⁰⁰ Bennema (2009: 95) says that, "John 4:46a reveals that Jesus has come full circle since 2:1 with his return to Galilee (cf. the mention of Jesus' first and second sign in 2:11 and 4:54)". Cf. Brown, 1966: 191-8; Morris, 1995: 252-62; Moloney, 1998: 151-8; Köstenberger, 2004: 166-72; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 70-3; Milne, 1993: 90-4.

¹²⁰¹ Pure narratives dominate in the following sections: vv. 46a-47a, 50b-51a, 53-54.

¹²⁰² The narratorial introductions to the utterances, like ἀπήλθεν πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ ἡρώτα (v. 47b), εἶπεν οὖν πρὸς αὐτόν (v. 48a), λέγει πρὸς αὐτόν ὁ βασιλικός (v. 49a), λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς (v. 50a), οἱ δοῦλοι οὖν ἀπήντησαν αὐτῷ λέγοντες ὅτι (v. 51b), ἐπύθετο οὖν (v. 52a), and εἶπαν οὖν αὐτῷ ὅτι (v. 52b), are affixed to utterance units well within the larger narratorial framework of the episode.

¹²⁰³ The second and third literary elements within the narratorial framework (active voice utterances [vv. 47b, 48a, 49a, 50a, 51b, 52a] and passive voice utterances [v. 47b, 51b, 52a]) are decisive in order to determine the overall shape of the dialogue. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 166-72; Moloney, 1998: 151-8; Milne, 1993: 90-4; Brown, 1966: 191-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 70-3; Morris, 1995: 252-62.

¹²⁰⁴ The memory statement in v. 53a, as the fourth literary element, is a repetitive statement of Jesus' final visit to the royal man in v. 50a.

¹²⁰⁵ Sloyan (1988: 59-60) observes that, "The first four chapters of John move along briskly in narrative style. There are numerous time clues provided (cf. 1:29, 35, 43; 2:1, 12, 13; 3:24; 4:40, 43)". The narrative takes the reader backward (1:11; 2:1-11; cf. Blum, 1993/2004: 288; Kennedy, 1984: 34, 82) and forward (pointing toward the resurrection sign in the gospel, the resurrection event). The overall structure of the episode is affixed within the larger framework of the gospel by way of analeptic and proleptic indications.

developments.¹²⁰⁶ Also in both cases, Jesus' statement marks the conclusion (cf. vv. 50a, 53a).¹²⁰⁷ As in the case of the first Cana incident (2:1-11), the present episode is flavoured by a *request-rebuke-response* sequence, action-oriented developments, and belief-centered dialogue progression (cf. Okure, 1998: 1543; Brodie, 1993: 226-33; see Table 38).¹²⁰⁸ In the episode, Jesus' personality develops further from an *inter-religious dialoguer* (cf. vv. 1-42) to a *sign-centered dialoguer* (cf. vv. 43-54).¹²⁰⁹ The short episode is placed between two larger episodes (i.e., 4:1-42 and 5:1-47; see Diagram 30).¹²¹⁰

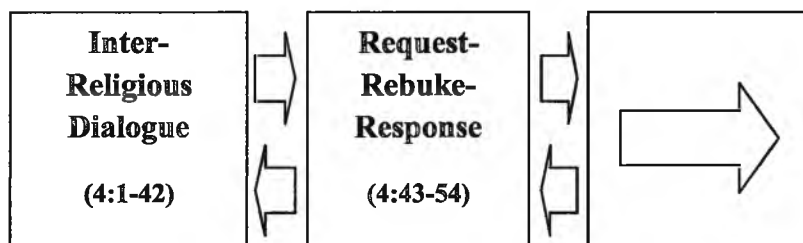


Diagram 30: The placement of the sixth episode

The *Cana-to-Cana* development of the extended narrative is complete now (cf. Bennema, 2009: 94; Culpepper, 1983: 73).¹²¹¹ Jesus' character within the Galilean framework reveals that he is a communicative and performative personality.¹²¹² The episode maintains a well-structured plot on the basis of the development of faith: *first*, the royal man's partial faith in Cana (as the beginning; vv. 47-48); *second*, progressive faith on the way (as the middle; vv. 49-53a); and *third*, matured faith in Capernaum (as the ending; vv. 53b).¹²¹³ Stibbe (1993: 71; cf. Nicol, 1972: 55; Quast, 1991/1996: 38) opines that, "The emphasis on signs in vv. 48 and 54 reminds the reader of the theme of Jesus 'doing signs'. The mention of believing (πιστεύω) in vv. 48, 50, and 53, reminds

¹²⁰⁶ For more details about drama and dramatic discourse, refer to Dodd, 1960: 318-9; Tan, 1993: 26-47; Elam, 1980: 135-207; Brant, 2004: 38, 204-5, 207; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24.

¹²⁰⁷ Bruce (1983: 117) states that, "The Evangelist emphasises that the place where Jesus first manifested his glory on what was in any case a joyful occasion (2:1-11) was now to witness a further manifestation of that glory in a time of desperate need". Bruce (1983: 117) says further that, "On the former occasion old life was transformed into new life; on this occasion life is snatched back from the brink of death".

¹²⁰⁸ In 4:46-54, dialogue develops in an "A to B, B to A" format.

¹²⁰⁹ When talking about the Platonic dialogues, Press (2007: 58) says that, "Dialogues can . . . be differentiated in terms of the density and difficulty of the arguments found in them. In dialogues such as *Ion*, *Crito* and *Euthyphro*, the arguments are clearer than the notoriously dense and difficult argumentation of dialogues such as *Sophist*, *Politicus*, *Philebus*, *Theaetetus*, *Timaeus* and the second part of the *Parmenides*".

¹²¹⁰ See the way the Nicodemus dialogue (3:1-21) is placed between two short dialogues (2:13-22 and 3:22-30).

¹²¹¹ See Bennema, 2009: 94-9. Also read Carson, 1991: 233-9; Bruce, 1983: 116-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 134-40; Barrett, 1978: 244-9; Blomberg, 2001: 104-7; Bennema, 2009: 94-9; Stibbe, 1993: 70-3.

¹²¹² Blomberg (2001: 104) is right in saying that, "At John 4:42 we seem to have reached the end of the material in the Fourth Gospel that chronologically preceded Christ's 'great Galilean ministry'".

¹²¹³ The royal man's belief is progressive within the framework of the little episode, which also works within the belief-unbelief conflict development of the gospel (cf. Blum, 1983/2004: 288; Okure, 1998: 1543). Kanagaraj (2005: 162-3; cf. Smith, 1999: 124-9) says that, "The official's faith was no longer static but an active response to God's life-giving power manifested in Jesus".

the reader of the theme of faith. The threefold use of ζαω in vv. 50, 51 and 53 ('your son who gives life' 3:16, 36; 4:14)". The theme of sign, faith, and life are characteristic as they assimilate the dialogic episode to the rest of the narrative (cf. Greimas, 1987: 63-83; Lothe, 2000: 3-10). A sequential reading of the episode challenges the reader for understanding the larger picture of the gospel. Moloney (1998: 151; cf. W 1958: 77-9) is of the opinion that, "The links existing between the stories that follow one point to the fundamental importance of a sequential reading of the narrative". The episode functions performatively within the narratorial framework in order to challenge the ever-reading reader of the text (cf. Taugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-35; Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67).

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
Slot # 1 (4:46-50)	Content: Jesus is the Giver of Life // Form: Request-rebuke-response sequence, belief-oriented // Function: It functions as a rhetorical piece for inviting the reader's attention toward Jesus who is the Giver of Life.	While the content of the overall dialogue is the giving aspect of Jesus, a request-rebuke-response format is used for conveying the message. And it functions as a rhetorical piece for inviting the reader's attention toward Jesus who is the giver of life.
Slot # 2 (4:51-53a/ 53b-54)	Vv. 51-53a works as a complimentary slot. It informs the reader that 'the time of dialogue is the time of sign'	The central tenet of the episode, i.e., the time of dialogue is the time of sign, is confirmed through the dialogue between the royal man and the slaves

Table 38: The summary of the dialogue of the sixth episode

Episode Seven

A Sign and a *Controversy* Dialogue Leading to a Monologue (5:1-47)

In his first circular movement (2:1-4:54) Jesus the protagonist travelled through Galilee, Judea, Samaria, and finally returned to Galilee. But in the second movement (5:1-10:21), as Stibbe (1993: 89) remarks that, “the focus is much on Jesus’ more localized movements in Jerusalem, particularly in the area of the Temple courts (7:14, 28; 8:20, 59; 10:23)”. John, thus, shifts the emphasis from the *Cana-to-Cana* movement of Jesus (2:1-4:54) to the Jerusalem-centric movement (5:1-10:21; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 101).

7.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

In the narrative, the author describes a religious and architectural setting with a purpose in mind.¹²¹⁴ According to Resseguie (2005: 88), “. . . setting contributes to the mood of the narrative, or delineates the traits of a character, or contributes to the development of plot conflicts. The setting may highlight the religious, moral, social, emotional, and spiritual values of the characters”. In chap. 5, the setting is described at the beginning of the narrative in detail, near the Sheep Gate pool in Jerusalem (vv. 1-6a).¹²¹⁵ The terrain of setting and dialogue mutually complement each other. Stibbe (1993: 74) says that, “The narrator’s statement in 5:1 that Jesus went up to Jerusalem for a feast of the Jews¹²¹⁶ is of symbolic importance. It announces the intention of the storyteller to

¹²¹⁴ While the Sabbath context adds a religious setting for the story, the pool and the temple add architectural setting. The general setting is both architectural and religious as the story moves from the mystical Sheep Gate pool which has five porticoes to the religio-political headquarters at the temple in Jerusalem.

¹²¹⁵ Moloney (1998: 168) argues that, “Details of a precise location for the following miracle are provided: the Sheep-Pool in Jerusalem, the place with five colonnades, called Bethesda in the language of the Jews”. Moloney (1998: 168; cf. Brown, 1966: 206-7; Stibbe, 1993: 73-6) further says that, “The existence of a pool long associated with healing, including pagan healing, at the northern corner of Jerusalem, opposite the Antonia Fortress, is well established”. Bennema (2009: 100-1) says that, “He [the invalid at the pool] is confined to the portico around a pool called Bethesda, which was reputed to have mystical healing powers (5:2-4), and is probably dependent on others for food and shelter”.

¹²¹⁶ Brown (1966: 206) points out that, “Codex Sinaiticus reads ‘the feast’, which would probably be a reference either to Tabernacles or to Passover; but the evidence for the omission of the article is overwhelming”. Kanagaraj (2005: 168) reports that, “The feast for which Jesus went up to Jerusalem is not identified, but is described simply as ‘a feast of the Jews’. Some scholars think that it was the Passover feast (6:4); others suggest that it was the feast of Tabernacles (7:2); some propose that it could refer to the feast of the Pentecost, whereas others suggest the feast of Trumpets, which can also be known as the New Year festival (see Lev 23:23-25)”. Fenton (1970: 67) thinks that given the themes of resurrection, judgment and witness in chapter 5 (vv. 21, 22, 31), the feast could be the Jewish Year festival. Bruce (1983: 121) states that, “As for the festival mentioned here, its identification is quite uncertain. There is a variant reading which has the definite article before ‘festival’; ‘the festival of the Jews’ would probably be Tabernacles. But the weight of the evidence favors the absence of the article”.

show Jesus as one who replaces existing religious feasts with his own person”.¹²¹⁷ But dialogue advances, the exact setting changes to the temple premises. This is a literary tactic for the narrator to reveal the vibrant movement and dramatic activity of the characters. After describing the physical setting of the story, in v. 3 the narrator addresses the kind of people attached to the narrative, generally called ἀσθενούντων (see Brown, 1966: 207; Stibbe, 1993: 74-5). He addresses three specific groups of people to the notice of the reader, τυφλῶν, χωλῶν, and ξηρῶν.¹²¹⁸ In v. 6a, the narrator narrows down the details to direct the reader toward the specific interlocutors in the story. Jesus’ attention falls on the person of τριάκοντα καὶ ὀκτὼ ἔτη ἔχων ἐν τῇ ἀσθενείᾳ, and there begins the slots of dialogues.

The narrative as a whole begins in v. 1 with the sequential phrase Μετὰ ταῦτα (i.e. ‘after this’).¹²¹⁹ Chap. 5 inaugurates the trend of the Sabbath conflicts and the growing opposition to Jesus within the gospel. Resseguie (2005: 88) says that, “When Jesus heals on the Sabbath, the highly charged religious setting is essential to the plot and point of view”.¹²²⁰ The narrator is specific in explaining the aspects of the entire chapter in the following sequence: *first*, contrast between chaps. 4 and 5 (v. 1);¹²²¹ *second*, setting description of the narrative (vv. 2-5); *third*, first slot of the story: dialogue between Jesus and the invalid man (vv. 6b-9a);¹²²² *second* slot: dialogue between Jesus and the healed man (vv. 9b-13);¹²²⁴ *fifth*, third slot

¹²¹⁷ Neyrey (2007: 102; cf. Guilding, 1960: 69-91) opines that, “The author locates the story on ‘a feast’, but cannot identify. Although Jesus will return for the feasts of Tabernacles, Dedication, and Passover, the only thing about this feast is that it was the Sabbath, which colors the evaluation of the healed man and Jesus’ action.”

¹²¹⁸ Neyrey (2007: 101) comments that, “The story opens at a pool where many ‘unwhole’ people are (invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed), but switches to the Temple, where observant Judeans confront the invalids (5:10-13). These places correspond to the persons in them; at the pool are people who are unwhole and thus unclean, but in the Temple, all persons must be whole and clean”.

¹²¹⁹ Köstenberger (2004: 177; cf. Ridderbos, 1997: 184; Keener, 2003: 635) is of the opinion that, “The phrase ‘after these things’ marks the passing of an identified period of time (cf. 2:12)”. Kanagaraj (2005: 168) says that the phrase, ‘after this’, refers to the events described in 4:46-54, although it does not imply any chronological connection. The phrase is a common one and ‘allows room for intervening occurrences’.

¹²²⁰ Newman and Nida (1980: 141) say that, “In his dialogue with the Samaritan woman Jesus declared that he had the power to give life-giving water; now, by healing the lame man, Jesus reveals his life-giving power (vv. 1-5). The healing takes place on a Sabbath day and so leads to a conflict between Jesus and the Jewish authorities (vv. 6-18)”.

¹²²¹ Μετὰ ταῦτα translated “after this” connects the entire story of 5:1-47 to the previous narratives. Cf. Carson (1984: 240; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 111; Newman and Nida, 1980: 142).

¹²²² In the scenic descriptions in vv. 2-6a the following things are described: *first*, where the event happens (in Jerusalem); *second*, the specific location (by the Sheep Gate, beside the pool); *third*, descriptions about the people (name, “Beth-zatha”; which has five porticoes); *fourth*, the kind of people by the pool area (many invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed); and *fifth*, about the man (ill for 38 years). Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 143-6; Carson (1984: 241-3; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 111).

¹²²³ This is the first dialogue slot of the episode, between Jesus and the invalid person. Jesus’ two utterances and the invalid’s one utterance together make the slot an action-oriented one. See Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 111; Carson (1984: 243-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146-7).

¹²²⁴ This is the second dialogue slot within the episode, one between the Jews and the invalid person. Cf. Carson (1984: 244-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 147-9; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112).

dialogue with the healed man in the temple (v. 14);¹²²⁵ *sixth*, fourth slot: the healed man discloses the identity of the healer to the Jews (v. 15);¹²²⁶ *seventh*, fifth slot: dialogue between Jesus and the Jews (vv. 16-18);¹²²⁷ and *eighth*, dialogue turns to a larger monologue (vv. 19-47).¹²²⁸ The monologue section can be mainly divided into three sections: *first*, Jesus claims equality with the Father (vv. 19-24);¹²²⁹ *second*, the two resurrections (vv. 25-29);¹²³⁰ and *third*, confirmatory testimonies to Jesus (vv. 30-47).¹²³¹ This structurally inclined general setting of the extended story enables the reader to bifurcate the dialogue section from the monologue and the narratorial sections. Even though the dialogue is narrated as a single entity, it develops through five dramatic slots. The interlocutors in these five scenic slots change accordingly: *first*, Jesus and the invalid person by the pool (cf. Broer, 2001: 83-90);¹²³² *second*, Jews and the healed person by the pool; *third*, Jesus and the healed person in the temple; *fourth*, the healed man discloses the identity of the healer to the Jews; and *fifth*, Jesus and the Jews (see Table 39). While the first three slots are specific in telling about the place of the dialogue, the last two do not provide details. But the reader is brought to the view that these would have happened either in the temple premises or by the pool.¹²³³ While in the first two slots dialogue is explicit, in the third, fourth and fifth it is implicit. The fourth slot is narrated in the passive voice form; but the message of the talk is the *identity of Jesus*.

¹²²⁵ The third dialogue slot has a single utterance of Jesus in v. 14. But, it has dialogic effects as the healed person goes and reports to the Jews more details about Jesus. Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 149-50; Carson, 1991: 245-6; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112.

¹²²⁶ Westcott (1958: 83) says that, "It is difficult to understand the motive of the man in conveying this information to the Jews, since he knew the holistic spirit in which they regarded the cure". See Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112; Newman and Nida, 1980: 150; Carson, 1991: 246.

¹²²⁷ The narrator does not report the exact location of this dialogue. But, it can be assumed that it happened at the temple premises. Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112-3; Newman and Nida, 1980: 150-2.

¹²²⁸ The larger monologue section can be considered as a further explanation of Jesus' own utterance at v. 17. Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 153-73; Carson, 1991: 250-67; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 113.

¹²²⁹ Sloyan (1988: 81) says that, "Greater than what the Father has for the Son out of love is what he will yet do (v. 20; cf. 1:50b). God, the only lifegiver in Jewish thought, empowers the Son to give life to whom he will. At this point the discourse takes a sober turn". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 128-31; Carson, 1991: 250-6; Barrett, 1978: 259-61; Blomberg, 2001: 112-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 75-6; Moloney, 1998: 166-93.

¹²³⁰ Read Quast, 1991/1996: 43-4. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 115; Barrett, 1978: 262-3; Moloney, 1998: 166-93; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 76-7; Bruce, 1983: 131-3; Carson, 1991: 256-9.

¹²³¹ The testimony section (vv. 30-47) is comprised of four different testimonies: *first*, testimony of John the Baptist (vv. 33-35); *second*, testimony of Jesus' works (v. 36); *third*, testimony of the Father (vv. 37-38); and *fourth*, testimony of the scripture (vv. 39-47). Cf. Moloney, 1998: 166-93; Carson, 1991: 259-67; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 77-9; Bruce, 1983: 133-9; Barrett, 1978: 264-70; Blomberg, 2001: 115-8.

¹²³² Kanagaraj (2005: 168) observes that, "There is some confusion about the exact name of the pool, which some manuscripts refer to as Bethzatha and others as Bethsaida, Belzetha or Bethesda. Bethesda may well have been the original form. This name means 'house of mercy', and serves to highlight Jesus' mercy to the man who was chronically ill". He (2005: 168; also see Bryan, 2003: 12-4) says further that, "The exact location of this pool is still disputed. However, archaeologists have excavated a double pool with five porches to the north of the Temple".

¹²³³ This view is on the basis of Jesus' appearance in the temple at v. 14. Afterwards, there is no mention about any further movement of Jesus. But the expression "went away" provides clues that the fourth (also fifth) would have happened by the pool.

Slots	Episode 7: John 5:1-47 (See the notes on each slots) ¹²³⁴
Slot #1 ¹²³⁵	<i>Jesus</i> (to the sick man): Θέλεις ὑγιῆς γενέσθαι; <i>Sick Man</i> : Κύριε, ἄνθρωπον οὐκ ἔχω ἵνα ὅταν ταραχθῇ τὸ ὕδωρ βάλῃ με εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν· ἐν ᾧ δὲ ἔρχομαι ἐγώ, ἄλλος πρὸ ἐμοῦ καταβαίνει <i>Jesus</i> : Ἔγειρε ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ περιπάτει
Slot #2 ¹²³⁶	<i>Jews</i> (to the healed man): Σάββατόν ἐστιν, καὶ οὐκ ἔξεστίν σοι ἄραι τὸν κράβαττόν σοι <i>Healed Man</i> : Ὁ ποιήσας με ὑγιῆ ἐκεῖνός μοι εἶπεν, Ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ περ <i>Jews</i> : Τίς ἐστιν ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ εἰπὼν σοι, Ἄρον καὶ περιπάτει;
Slot #3 ¹²³⁷	<i>Jesus</i> (to the healed man): Ἴδε ὑγιῆς γέγονας, μηκέτι ἁμάρτανε, ἵνα μὴ χεῖρόν σοί τι
Slot #4 ¹²³⁸	<i>Healed man</i> (to the Jews): Ἰησοῦς ἐστιν ὁ ποιήσας αὐτὸν ὑγιῆ
Slot #5 ¹²³⁹	<i>Jesus</i> (to the Jews): Ὁ πατήρ μου ἕως ἄρτι ἐργάζεται καὶ ἐγὼ ἐργάζομαι <i>Continues as a monologue</i> (vv. 19-47)

Table 39: The dialogue text of 5:1-18 (and the monologue, 5:19-47)

7.2. Micro-Analysis

7.2.1. Slot One (5:6-9a)

The content of the first slot can be analysed as follows. In John 5:1, a narratorial connect can be seen (by the expression Μετὰ ταῦτα) between chaps. 4 and 5, as once again, the scene shifts from Galilee to Jerusalem (cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 200).¹²⁴⁰ After explaining the general scene of the narrative in detail (vv. 1-6a), the narrator draws the reader's attention to the dialogue (vv. 6-9a).¹²⁴¹ Jesus has foreknowledge of the man's condition as mentioned in v. 6a—he 'saw' (ἰδὼν, cf. Wallace, 1996: 328, 520) and he 'knew' (ἐπίσταντο, cf. Moloney (1998: 168; cf. Talbert, 1992: 121; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 95-6) opines that, 'The

¹²³⁴ Dialogues are implicit in sections like vv. 14-15, where Jesus' single utterance in v. 14 is mentioned in the content of the utterance of Jesus and the healed man's information to the Jews in v. 15 make the readers to think of a dialogue. The Jewish attempt to persecute Jesus (v. 16), Jesus' utterance (v. 17), and the extended monologue in vv. 19-47 make the reader once again aware of the abbreviating tendencies of the author.

¹²³⁵ Slot # 1 is preceded by an extended narrative section (vv. 1-6b) and concluded by another narratorial note in v. 6a.

¹²³⁶ Slot # 2, similarly, begins with a little narratorial note (vv. 9b-10a) and ends with another narratorial note in v. 10a.

¹²³⁷ Slot # 3 is reported as a monologic statement of Jesus (v. 14). But the healed man's response (v. 15) to Jesus' statement makes the reader for thinking about the possibility of the dialogue between Jesus and the healed man in the narrative. The reader can also think about an implicit dialogue between the healed man and the Jews for a second time (cf. v. 16).

¹²³⁸ Slot # 4: Here the utterance of the healed man is reported in a passive voice form. The narrator's involvement is obvious here.

¹²³⁹ In Slot # 4, Jewish response to Jesus (v. 16), Jesus' utterance (v. 17), and his further explanation in vv. 19-47 are narrated in a sequence. A reader may be persuaded to ask the question, what prompted Jesus to continue his talk in the form of a monologue? A Jews-and-Jesus dialogue can be implicitly viewed between the utterances of Jesus in v. 17 and vv. 19-47. Dodd (1960: 320) says that, "The reply is a feeble excuse. The man has no will. The law might show the way of life; it was powerless to create the will to live. The will to live, together with the power to live, is given in the word of Christ".

¹²⁴⁰ Wallace (1996: 531) comments about v. 2 as follows: "Since εἰμί is nowhere else clearly used as a present, the present tense should be taken as indicating present time from the viewpoint of the speaker. The implication of this seems to be that this gospel was written before the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 CE. If this is the many object to a pre-70 date for John's Gospel, they must, in support of their view, reckon with this text".

¹²⁴¹ To know more about the conceptualization of meaning, refer to Aaron, 2001: 43-68.

his knowledge of the man's circumstances Jesus asks him, 'Do you want to be healed (Θέλεις υγιῆς γενέσθαι;)' (v. 6b), and this question enables a dialogue".¹²⁴² Jesus appears as the initiator of the dialogue proper by raising a question to the invalid (v. 6b; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 137-8; Brant, 2004: 164).¹²⁴³ The first slot of the episode is framed by the help of three speech units (vv. 6b, 7b, 8b), two by Jesus (vv. 6b, 8b) and one by the invalid (v. 7b; see Table 40).

John 5:1-9	Overview
<p>v.1: Μετὰ ταῦτα ἦν ἑορτὴ τῶν Ἰουδαίων καὶ ἀνέβη Ἰησοῦς εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα.</p> <p>v.2: ἔστιν δὲ ἐν τοῖς Ἱεροσολύμοις ἐπὶ τῇ προβατικῇ κολυμβήθρα ἡ ἐπιλεγομένη Ἑβραϊστὶ Βηθζαθα πέντε στοὰς ἔχουσα.</p> <p>v.3: ἐν ταύταις κατέκειτο πλῆθος τῶν ἀσθενούντων, τυφλῶν, χωλῶν, ξηρῶν.</p> <p>v.5: ἦν δὲ τις ἄνθρωπος ἐκεῖ τριάκοντα [καὶ] ὀκτὼ ἔτη ἔχων ἐν τῇ ἀσθενείᾳ αὐτοῦ·</p> <p>v.6: τοῦτον ἰδὼν ὁ Ἰησοῦς κατακείμενον καὶ γινούς ὅτι πολὺν ἤδη χρόνον ἔχει, λέγει αὐτῷ, Θέλεις υγιῆς γενέσθαι;</p> <p>v.7: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ ὁ ἀσθενῶν, Κύριε, ἄνθρωπον οὐκ ἔχω ἵνα ὅταν παραχθῇ τὸ ὕδωρ βάλλῃ με εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν· ἐν ᾧ δὲ ἔρχομαι ἐγώ, ἄλλος πρὸ ἐμοῦ καταβαίνει.</p> <p>v.8: λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἐγείρε ἄρον τὸν κράββατόν σου καὶ περιπάτει.</p> <p>v.9: καὶ εὐθέως ἐγένετο υγιῆς ὁ ἄνθρωπος καὶ ἦρεν τὸν κράββατον αὐτοῦ καὶ περιεπάτει. Ἦν δὲ σάββατον ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ.</p>	<p>(1) The first slot (vv. 1-9) of the episode has three utterance units, two of Jesus (vv. 6b, 8b) and one of the invalid (v. 7b);</p> <p>(2) It is a dialogue (vv. 6-8) that leads to an action or a miracle (v. 9);</p> <p>(3) The slot begins as a pure narrative (vv. 1-6a), develops as a dialogue (vv. 6b-8), and closes as a miracle (v. 9);</p> <p>(4) Along with the pure narrative (vv. 1-6a), it also has formula narratives (vv. 6a, 7a, 8a).</p>

Table 40: The dialogue of 5:1-9 within the narratorial framework

The invalid's response begins with the address Κύριε (v. 7a). The addressing is followed by a two-tier explanation about his helpless condition in v. 7: *first*, Κύριε, ἄνθρωπον οὐκ ἔχω ἵνα ὅταν παραχθῇ τὸ ὕδωρ βάλλῃ με εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν; and *second*, ἐν ᾧ δὲ ἔρχομαι ἐγώ, ἄλλος πρὸ ἐμοῦ καταβαίνει.¹²⁴⁴ Jesus' command in v. 8 (i.e., Ἐγείρε ἄρον τὸν κράββατόν σου καὶ περιπάτει) results in a sign (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 103; Wallace, 1996: 658).¹²⁴⁵ Painter (1993: 220; cf. Robertson, 1932: 80) states that, "The miracle story is completed by the first of a series of dialogues (5:6b-8)

¹²⁴² Moloney (1998: 168) adds further that, "The narrator's comment, that 'Jesus . . . knew that he had been there a long time' (v. 6b) recalls the encounters with Nathanael (1:47-48) and the Samaritan woman (4:18)". Also see Dodd, 1960: 319-20; Barrett, 1978: 254; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146; Stibbe, 1993: 74.

¹²⁴³ Carson (1991: 243) is of the opinion that, "Jesus' question, 'Do you want to get well?', is often given a 'psychologising' interpretation: Jesus is establishing that the first step toward wholeness is always deep desire". Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 111; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146; Dodd, 1963: 176; Barrett, 1978: 254.

¹²⁴⁴ Köstenberger (2004: 180) states that, "Jesus' offer, 'Would you like to get well?' seems entirely redundant in light of the man's obvious need. Most likely, it is designed to elicit the man's perspective on the obstacle to his cure: the lack of those who would take him to the pool when the water was stirred". Köstenberger (2004: 180; cf. Metzger, 1994: 179; Brown, 1966: 207) further says that, "The stirring up of the waters could have been created by intermittent springs or spring water. Superstition attributed the movement of the water to an angel of the Lord who would come down from time to time stir up the waters". Cf. Moloney, 1998: 168, 172; Dodd, 1963: 176; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 111; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146; Barrett, 1978: 254; Carson, 1991: 243.

¹²⁴⁵ Moloney (1998: 168) is of the opinion that, "The response of the man is an unquestioning obedience to the word of Jesus, but this is only possible because between the command and the response the narrator indicates that 'the man was healed' (v. 9: ἐγένετο υγιῆς)". Cf. Carson, 1991: 243-4; Barrett, 1978: 254; Dodd, 1963: 176.

leaving the narrator to inform us of the immediacy of the cure which is evidenced by the man in response to the command of Jesus, took his bed and walked away, 5:9a-b”.¹²⁴⁶ The cure is reported as a sudden development in v. 9a (cf. Robertson, 1932: 80-1; Duke, 1985: 47). The semantic domains of ‘the dialogue leading to the miracle’ help the reader understand Jesus ‘from above’ to make human life ‘well’ (cf. vv. 6b, 8, 9a).

The above analysis of the content of the dialogue is helpful for understanding the form of (cf. Chandler, 2002: 189).¹²⁴⁸ The invalid’s *explanation* in the form of an *inability state complaint* (v. 7)¹²⁴⁹ is sandwiched between Jesus’ two utterances, the *first*, an *inquiry* (v. 6b), the *second*, an *action-oriented utterance* or *command* (v. 8).¹²⁵⁰ While Jesus uses talk-for-*question/inquiry* and *action-oriented utterance* or *command*, the invalid uses a form which features of an *explanation*, a *reason* or a *complaint* (see Table 41).¹²⁵¹ According to Murray (1987: 71; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 93-6), “the narrative is simple in form: the man and circumstances of the man in need are described (vv. 1-5); Jesus sees the man (cf. Luke 13:12), questions his willingness to be healed, then speaks a healing command; the man is healed, as his picking up and carrying his mattress demonstrates”.¹²⁵² The utterances in “commas” are presented by way of the usual Johannine formula for dialogue: Jesus’ two λέγει (vv. 6b and 8) and invalid’s one ἀπεκρίθη (v. 7). The expression ‘at once’ (καὶ εὐθέως) indicates the sudden healing of the invalid (v. 9).¹²⁵³

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Question, inquiry about willingness	Does the invalid wanted to be made well?
Invalid	Explanation, reason, inability statement, complaint	The invalid does not have anyone to pick him up into the pool when the water is stirred when he makes his way, someone else

¹²⁴⁶ The interactional mode of the dialogue is an important element to take up seriously. Bowles (2010: 50) “‘Interactional mode’ refers to the way that speakers and listeners position themselves in relation to each other”.

¹²⁴⁷ Bennema (2009: 102; cf. Brant, 2004: 38) opines that, “John’s concise statement that ‘immediately the man was made well’ (5:9a) indicates to the reader that the focus should not be on the mechanics of the miracle but on the character responds to Jesus”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 254; Carson, 1991: 243; Dodd, 1960: 319-20; Stibbe, 1993: 74-6.

¹²⁴⁸ Painter (1993: 220) says that, “The miracle story itself is similar in form and content to many of the other miracle stories, especially Mark 2:1-12. Mark’s story is not located on the Sabbath, though the healing of the withered hand is, Mark 3:1-6; Matthew 12:9-14; Luke 6:6-11”.

¹²⁴⁹ Milne (1993: 95) says that, “. . . being in essence a complaint about lacking someone to get him into the pool at the requisite moment”.

¹²⁵⁰ Wallace (1996: 658, 717) considers the command of Jesus as an *asyndeton* (5:8). He says that, “Asyndeton is a vivid stylistic feature that occurs often for emphasis, solemnity, or rhetorical value (staccato effect), or when there is an abrupt change in topic”. Wallace (1996: 721) further says that, “The momentary aorist is used (περιπατεῖ) by an ingressive-progressive present. The force of this clause is, ‘Take up [right now] your bed and [then] continue to] walk’”. Bennema (2009: 101) considers the invalid’s utterance in v. 7 as a *lament*. Cf. Dodd, 1960: 319-20; Carson, 1991: 243-4; Blomberg, 2001: 108-12; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146; Stibbe, 1993: 74-6.

¹²⁵¹ Quast (1991/1996: 42) says that, “. . . there are several hints that he [the invalid] was a dull man of little faith, insight, moral character, or even gratitude (John 5:7, 13-15). When Jesus asked him if he wanted to be healed, the man did not offer a clear answer; he wasn’t expecting to be healed in the water or by Jesus”. Brant (2004: 38) says that, “The lame man *describes* what happens when he tries to get into the pool”. See Milne, 1993: 95; Murray, 1987: 71-2, 73-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146; Dodd, 1960: 319-20.

¹²⁵² Nicol (1972: 15-6) opines that, “The healing at Bethesda (5:2-9b) could almost have been a synoptic healing. As in Luke 13:16 and Mark 5:25, the seriousness of the malady is stressed by specifying its duration (v. 5). The conversation between Jesus and the patient preceding the healing (6-8) is customary in the synoptics (cf. Mark 9:23-25). The strong emphasis on the man’s helplessness is consistent with the character of Sign”.

¹²⁵³ Painter (1993: 214-21) considers the episode as a ‘rejection story’.

		down ahead of him
Jesus	Action-oriented utterance, command	The invalid must stand up, take up his mat and walk

Table 41: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 5:1-9

A *rhythmical/chiastic* way of presentation of the dialogue by the help of narratorials is obvious here (see Diagram 31). John uses narratorial elements, like dialogues and miracles, rhetorically in order to communicate his story well with the reader (cf. Lee, 2004: 163-99). Neyrey (2007: 102) says that, "Water has played a significant role thus far in the narrative In all instances, water accompanies or causes a status-transformation ritual Thus one would expect the water in the pool to signal a transition, which it does".¹²⁵⁴ The sequence of incidents, like Jesus' sudden appearance on the stage, the dialogue between him and the invalid, the occurrence of healing,¹²⁵⁵ and his sudden disappearance from the stage, introduce an *appearance-and-disappearance* characterisation (cf. Westcott, 1958: 81-2).¹²⁵⁶ Duke (1985: 115) observes about the regular pattern of 'irony of identity' in vv. 7-8.¹²⁵⁷ The holistic approach of Jesus within the episode is introduced before the reader by employing the terminology ὅγιος.¹²⁵⁸ The invalid's response reported at the centre (v. 7) provides an ABCB'A' format for the slot (see Diagram 31).

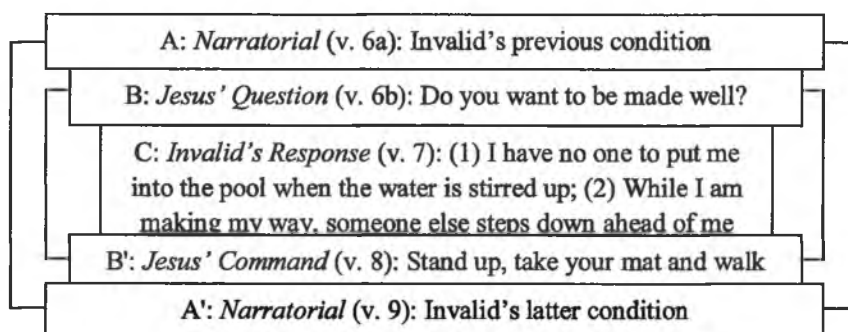


Diagram 31: The structure of vv. 6a-9

The first slot of the episode shows the development of the invalid's character in a unique way. Stibbe (1993: 74) is of the opinion that, "A point worth noting is the difference in form and structure between this healing at Bethesda and the two signs described in 2:1-11 and 4:46-54. In the Bethesda miracle, there is no reference to signs and there is no request-rebuke-response structure. In Jn. 5:1-15 we have a wholly different kind of storytelling". The invalid is introduced

¹²⁵⁴ Cf. 1:28; 2:7-10; 3:5; 3:22-30; 4:7-15; and 5:5.

¹²⁵⁵ Many label this narrative of the "invalid made whole" (5:1-9) as the "third sign" in a collection of seven.

¹²⁵⁶ Jesus first of all appears on the stage, a dialogue is initiated between him and the invalid, performs a miracle, and finally disappears from the stage. Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 146-7; Barrett, 1978: 254; Blomberg, 2001: 108.

¹²⁵⁷ Duke (1985: 115) says that, ". . . *first*, a character not knowing Jesus' identity addresses him as *kurie*, *second*, makes reference to Messiah/Son of man/Jesus, thought to be absent, after which *third*, Jesus immediately discloses himself (4:19-26; 9:35-37; 20:14-16; cf. 5:7-8)".

¹²⁵⁸ The Greek word ὅγιος is used in the FG only in 5:6, 9, 11, 14, 15, and 7:23. Its use serves as a continual reminder of the physical event of this particular miracle, both throughout chap. 5 and in 7:14-24. The word ὅγιος literally can mean whole, sound, healthy, well, cured. See Moloney, 1998: 172.

before the reader as one who ‘had been ill’ (v. 5; ἔχων ἐν τῇ ἀσθενείᾳ), ‘lying there’ (κατακείμενον), ‘helpless’ (v. 7a; βάλλη με εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν),¹²⁵⁹ ‘made well’ (v. 6b; γενέσθαι), ‘stand up’ (v. 8; Ὑγείρε), and ‘began to walk’ (v. 9; περιεπάτει, cf. Nicol, 1972: 2010: 8-30; Templeton, 1999: 53-65).¹²⁶² Though the overall frame of the narrative is classified as a miracle, the first slot of dialogue maintains a *question-response-command* format (see Diagram 31).¹²⁶³ The syntactic structure of the narrative and the literary devices used to construct it compliment the *question-response-command* format of the dialogue. In turn, the narrator rhetorises the narrative unit in order to invite the reader toward the life-transforming miracle of Jesus.

The dialogue of the first slot functions primarily in the following way: *first*, Jesus’ concern for the invalid is revealed through his very question (v. 6b); *second*, the invalid’s current position is brought to the notice of the reader by way of his response (v. 7); and *third*, the power of Jesus’ utterance is manifested through his command (v. 8).¹²⁶⁴ Jesus’ power of healing through his words (v. 8) over against the invalid’s helpless condition (v. 7) is brought out here. The utterance units of the dialogue are functioning in a revelatory manner (cf. vv. 6b, 7, 8). The narrator’s intention of delineating a transfer of order from “the previous condition” of the invalid to “the latter condition” (see vv. 6a and 9) is actualised by way of the dialogue inserted in the narrative (see Diagram 31).¹²⁶⁵ The episode, thus, shows that the slot as a whole is a result of the joint-efforts of the narrator and the interlocutors of the story (cf. Court, 1997: 1-42; 1989: 25). While the interaction between Jesus and the invalid builds a tension within the narrative, the miracle emerges as an end-result and the leading factor for the successive dialogue. Jesus is presented as a bringer of salvation and performer of wholistic development and

¹²⁵⁹ Duke (1985: 106) says that, “Some texts seem to contrast Jesus with *anthrōpoi*. In 2:10 the practice of Jesus is contrasted with the practice of *pas anthrōpos*. In 5:7 the sick man complains that he has no person to help him. Of course, he has Jesus”.

¹²⁶⁰ Neyrey (2007: 102) says that, “It reads like a typical miracle story found in both Hellenistic source and Jewish apocrypha. Such stories typically contain five elements: *confrontation*, *severity of disease*, *cure*, *some materia medica* (such as roots or spittle), *proof of healing*, and *honor* to the healer”. Cf. Carson, 1991: 243-244; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146-7; Stibbe, 1993: 73-6.

¹²⁶¹ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 200; cf. Chatman, 1978: 43; Brodie, 1993: 151-2; Elam, 1980: 135-210; Hitchcock, 1993: 15-24) says that, “. . . John 5 and John 6 are distinguished not only by the change in place and time but also by a *change of dramatic characters*”.

¹²⁶² Moore (1989: 15) opines that, “Plot and character are inseparably bound up in the reading experience. Each works to produce the other. Characters are defined in and through the plot they do and by what they say. The plot in turn comes into view as characters act and interact”. For more details on the Johannine Sabbath conflict narratives in Chaps. 5 and 9:1-10:21, refer to Asiedu-Peprah, 2001: 11-51.

¹²⁶³ Painter (1993: 220-21) considers the entire episode (5:1-18) as a *Pronouncement Story* or a *Miracle Story*.

¹²⁶⁴ Stibbe (1993: 76) states that, “As far as Jesus’ characterisation is concerned, traits which we have already seen in 2:1-4:54, such as his supernatural knowledge, are still visible (as in 5:6), but what appears much more for the first time is John’s portrayal of Jesus as the elusive Christ”. Cf. Carson, 1991: 243-4; Dodd, 1960: 319-20; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146-7; Dodd, 1963: 176; Blomberg, 2001: 108-12.

¹²⁶⁵ Narrator’s comments in vv. 6a and 9 help the readers to understand the dialogue shaped within a frame.

people. As in the second Cana incident (4: 46-54), here too ‘the time of dialogue is the time of sign’.¹²⁶⁶ But in the current story there is no intermediary between Jesus and the invalid turned healed.¹²⁶⁷ According to Brown (2009: 344), “The combination of a miracle and a discourse/dialogue that brings out the miracle’s sign-value is a Johannine technique”. What Brown says here is actualised through this sign-focused dialogue (vv. 6b-9a).¹²⁶⁸

Jesus’ question in v. 6b raises hope for becoming ‘whole’, ‘complete’ or ‘made well’. As a response the invalid expresses his helplessness, a life-long frustration and struggle for being made well (v. 7b).¹²⁶⁹ Both these aspects are brought out well by the narrator through the dialogue. The narrator’s special attention on the linguistic phenomena and its performance persuades the reader to be made whole (cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67). Jesus’ authoritative utterance that caused the invalid’s healing in v. 8¹²⁷⁰ resounds in varied forms in the subsequent dialogues. It came through the mouths of all the interlocutors, i.e., Jesus (v. 8), the invalid (v. 11), and the Jews (v. 12; cf. Westcott, 1958: 81-2; Duke, 1985: 128).¹²⁷¹ The first dramatic slot functions as a *scene of foundation* for the successive four slots which are basically dealing about a controversy around the healing event.

7.2.2. Slot Two (5:9b-13)

As the interlocutors of the dialogue change, there occurs a shift from the first slot (vv. 1-9a) to the second (vv. 9b-13). The text does not speak about whether the second dialogue happens by the pool or at the temple or somewhere else (cf. Broer, 2001: 85-90).¹²⁷² The narratorial expressions, like εὐθὺς ἐγένετο ὑγιής ὁ ἄνθρωπος and ἦρεν τὸν κράββατον αὐτοῦ καὶ περιπάτει (v. 9), inform the reader about the possibility of an immediate action of the healed man and the

¹²⁶⁶ Painter (1993: 214-15) says that, “The word of healing was spoken by Jesus, ‘Arise take your bed and walk’, 5:8. That word was enough and the readers are informed of the instantaneous nature of the healing which is evidenced by the man carrying off his bed”.

¹²⁶⁷ In John 4:46-54, the father came on behalf of the sick person. Also see the comparison between John 5:1-18 and 9:1-41, Schneiders, 1999/2003: 149-70; Maniparampil, 2004: 240-1. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 108-12; Carson, 1991: 243-4; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 71-2, 73-4.

¹²⁶⁸ Stibbe (1993: 74) says that, “. . . the structure of the piece is clearly divided into a miracle followed by an interrogation pattern. In vv. 5-9a, the miracle is performed by Jesus. In vv. 9b-13, the healed man is interrogated by the Jews. We shall see in 9:1-42 a similar pattern of miraculous healing followed by interrogation, controversy and dialogue”. Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 146-7; Barrett, 1978: 254; Blomberg, 2001: 108-12.

¹²⁶⁹ Thomas (1953: 3-20; cf. Bennema, 2009: 105) states, “‘See you have been made whole. Stop sinning’ means that the man should not continue sinning when his sins have just been forgiven, indicated by the use of ‘whole’”.

¹²⁷⁰ Cf. Ἐγείρε ἄρον τὸν κράββατόν σου καὶ περιπάτει.

¹²⁷¹ This is the most important utterance in the story, because it moves both as an utterance of ‘power’ and as an utterance of ‘memory’. Sloyan (1988: 79) comments that, “Jesus asks the victim if it his will to be healed (v. 6b). When he is assured that it is, he heals by a word of command (v. 8)”. The word of command by Jesus is repeated two more times (vv. 11 and 12). Cf. Carson, 1991: 243-5; Stibbe, 1993: 74-6; Blomberg, 2001: 108-12; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146-7.

¹²⁷² Neyrey (2007: 101) comments that, “The story opens at a pool where many ‘unwhole’ people are gathered (invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed), but switches to the Temple, where observant Judeans confront the invalid man (5:10-13)”.

subsequent dialogue (vv. 10b-12).¹²⁷³ The semantic aspects of the second slot are primarily on the three utterances of the interlocutors (vv. 10b, 11b, 12b; cf. Tuggy, 1992: 45-67; E 1988: 23-39). Moloney (1998: 168; cf. Culpepper, 1993: 138; Thomas, 1995: 12) opines that “‘The Jews’ enter the story, accusing the man of the unlawful Sabbath work of carrying his mat”.¹²⁷⁴ Thus the dialogue begins with a juridical statement of the Jews, i.e., Σάββατόν ἐστίν οὐκ ἔξεστίν σοι ἄραι τὸν κράβαττόν σου (v. 10; cf. Robertson, 1932: 81; Quast, 1995: 42).¹²⁷⁵ The Greek expression οὐκ ἔξεστίν¹²⁷⁶ directs the reader’s attention toward the legal formalities. Newman and Nida (1980: 147; cf. Painter, 1993: 221) say that, “The reference is not to the Mosaic Law as such but to the rabbinic interpretation of the Mosaic Law”.¹²⁷⁷ The healing of the man on a Sabbath day becomes a matter of controversy (cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1998: see Table 42).¹²⁷⁸

John 5:10-13	Overview
v.10: ἔλεγον οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι τῷ τεθεραπευμένῳ, Σάββατόν ἐστιν, καὶ οὐκ ἔξεστίν σοι ἄραι τὸν κράβαττόν σου. v.11: ὁ δὲ ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς, Ὁ ποιήσας με ὑγιή ἐκεῖνός μοι εἶπεν, Ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ περιπάτει. v.12: ἠρώτησαν αὐτόν, Τίς ἐστὶν ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ εἰπὼν σοι, Ἄρον καὶ περιπάτει; v.13: ὁ δὲ ἰαθεὶς οὐκ ᾔδει τίς ἐστὶν, ὁ γὰρ Ἰησοῦς ἐξένευσεν ὄχλου ὄντος ἐν τῷ τόπῳ.	(1) The second slot (vv. 10-13) of the episode has three utterance units, two from the Jews (vv. 10b, 12b) and one from the healed man (v. 11b); (2) While the dialogue in the first slot (vv. 6b-8) leads to a miracle (v. 9), the dialogue in the second slot (vv. 10b-12) is a controversy around the miracle; (3) While Jesus is present in the first slot, his absence is noticeable in the second slot. While the Jews replace Jesus in the second slot, the invalid turned healed man becomes the constant character; (4) The slot begins as a pure narrative (vv. 9b-10a), develops as a dialogue (vv. 10b-12), and closes as another pure narrative (v. 12);

¹²⁷³ Stibbe (1993: 76) says that, “In 5:1-9a, Jesus is the focus of the action. It is Jesus who approaches the poor Jesus who heals the crippled man. However, in v. 9b Jesus disappears and it is now the crippled man who is the focus of the attention”.

¹²⁷⁴ Cf. *m. Šabb.* 7:2; cf. also 10:5; Exo 20:8-11; Jer 17:19-27. Barrett (1978: 255; cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112) is of the opinion that, “Jesus himself is not here accused of breaking the Sabbath (contrast v. 18); he is given a command which has led another man into transgression”. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 110; Stibbe, 1993: 76; Newman and Nida, 1980: 147; Painter, 1993: 219-22; Carson, 1991: 244-5.

¹²⁷⁵ Milne (1993: 95; cf. Wallace, 1996: 264, 436, 545, 601, 674) opines that, “The day of the healing was the Sabbath and carrying one’s bed was a breach of the law of Sabbath observance. Strictly, there was no contravening written commandment (cf. Exo 20:8-11), which was generally interpreted as a prohibition of performing any work or occupation on the Sabbath”.

¹²⁷⁶ The Greek expression ἔξεστίν can mean the following: *first*, An action is possible in the sense that there are no hindrances or that the opportunity for it occurs, i.e., “to have the possibility”, “to be able”; *second*, It also means that an action is not prevented by a higher norm or court, that “it may be done or it is not forbidden”; and *third*, It means that there are no psychic or ethical obstacles to an action (cf. Foerster, 1964: 560-1; cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 147). The use of negation οὐκ at the beginning makes it an opposite.

¹²⁷⁷ Painter (1993: 220) says that, “. . . the reader (is) informed by the narrator: ‘But it was the Sabbath on the day of the healing’ (v. 9b). The focus is on the Sabbath throughout the remainder of the dialogues, 5:9, 10, 16, 18”.

¹²⁷⁸ Beasley-Murray (1987: 72) says that, “one Sabbath healing becomes an example of the recurring controversy between the Jews with Jesus about the Sabbath, and it enabled the Evangelist to make plain why Jesus so acted, and why the Jewish opposition to him in the light of his teaching”. Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 73-6; Carson, 1991: 244-5; Mlakuzhyil, 1998: 254-5; Blomberg, 2001: 110; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112.

(5) Along with the pure narrative (vv. 9b-10a, 12), it also has formula narratives (vv. 10a, 11a, 12a).

Table 42: The dialogue of 5:10-13 within the narratorial framework

Another time the healed man utters a typical version of his helplessness (v. 11b; cf. v. 7). He says: Ὁ ποιήσας με ὑγιῆ ἐκεῖνός μοι εἶπεν, Ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ περιπάτει (cf. Thomas, 1995: 13; Resseguie, 2001: 38).¹²⁷⁹ Barrett (1978: 255; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 187-8) opines that, “The man however will not accept responsibility for his deed (i.e., carrying the mat). He could hardly be blamed for obeying the man who cured him, ignorant though he was of that man’s identity”.¹²⁸⁰ The Jewish response ends with a question about the identity of the man who healed the invalid, i.e., τίς ἐστὶν ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ εἰπὼν σοι, Ἄρον καὶ περιπάτει; (v. 12; cf. Robertson, 1932: 81; Lee, 1994: 102-3).¹²⁸¹ Milne (1993: 95; cf. Westcott, 1958: 82-3) observes that, “It is noticeable that when *the Jews* (v. 10) confront the man, they do not show any interest in the wonder of his recovery with all its implications for his future lifestyle, nor do they appear in the least open to the significance of his healing as a pointer to who Jesus was”.¹²⁸² The above details inform the reader about the controversy-centered content of the slot. While the healed man perceives Jesus as one who made him well (though he is not aware of his identity), the Jews perceive him as a Sabbath breaker. These conflictive perspectives play vital roles in the dialogue.

The form of the dialogic slot can be identified on the basis of the following observations (cf. Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 121-2; Chandler, 2002/2007: 189). The *command* or *juridical statement* of the Jews in v. 10 takes the attention of the reader toward the controversial side of the incident. Whereas the first utterance of the man was concerning his life-long struggle (v. 7; i.e., before Jesus), his second utterance is reported as a response to the juridical statement of the Jews (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 42; Talbert, 1992: 122-3). Köstenberger (2004: 181) is of the opinion that, “In a probable instance of Johannine irony, the Jewish leaders’ primary objection is not against the healing itself but that the law allegedly forbade the man to carry his mat on the Sabbath”.¹²⁸³ The

¹²⁷⁹ In order to know the grammatical function of the expression Ὁ ποιήσας με ὑγιῆ, refer to Wallace, 1996: 186.

¹²⁸⁰ Robertson (1932: 81) says that, “The man did not know who Jesus was nor even his name. He quotes the very words of Jesus”. Cf. Carson, 1991: 244-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 148; Stibbe, 1993: 73-6.

¹²⁸¹ Blomberg (2001: 110) opines that, “‘The Jews’—as often in John a shorthand for ‘key Jewish leaders’—understandably inquire about who commanded the man to carry his mat, but he cannot tell them (vv. 12-13)”. Moloney (1998: 169) says that, “‘The Jews’ want to know ‘Who is the one? (τίς ἐστὶν ὁ ἄνθρωπος;)’ (v. 12), but the narrator comments that ‘the one who had been healed did not know who it was (οὐκ ᾔδει τίς ἐστὶν)’ (v. 13a). The two issues crucial to the story are the correct celebration of the Sabbath and the person of Jesus”.

¹²⁸² Neyrey (2007: 104) says that, “The healing becomes a controversy when observant Judeans label the man’s carrying of his mat as a Sabbath violation: ‘It is not lawful for you to carry your mat’ (5:10). He denies responsibility and shifts the blame to Jesus: ‘The man who made me well said to me, Take up your mat and walk’ (5:11). But the identity of the person responsible is unknown”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74; Painter, 1993: 219-22; Carson, 1991: 244-5; Stibbe, 1993: 73-6; Newman and Nida, 1980: 147-8.

¹²⁸³ Robertson (1932: 81) says that, “Carrying burdens was considered unlawful on the Sabbath (Exo 23:12; Neh 13:19; Jer 17:21). Stoning was the rabbinical punishment. The healing of the man was a minor detail”. Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 243; Barrett, 1978: 254-5; Carson, 1991: 245; Brown, 1966: 208; Newman and Nida, 1980: 147-8.

conflict between the observance of the σάββατόν¹²⁸⁴ and carrying a κράβαττόν¹²⁸⁵ is presented in a suspense-generating way within the slot (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 104). The κράβαττόν can be considered as an important *prop* that performs a symbolic activity within the narrative (cf. Baldick, 1993; Westcott, 1958: 82-3).¹²⁸⁶ The camera pans to the mat that is folded and kept in the hand of the healed man, and the viewer knows that it is an important device of the plot (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 53; Lothe, 2000: 3-10).¹²⁸⁷

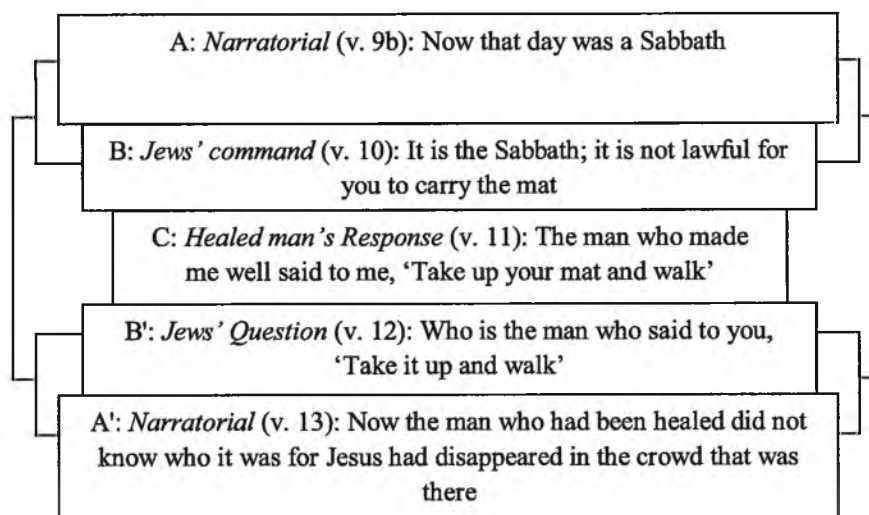


Diagram 32: The structure of vv. 9b-13

The above diagram (# 32) depicts the structural pattern of the second slot. As in the case of the first slot (vv. 1-9a), here too the narratives and utterance units are coherently arranged (cf. Greimas, 1988: 85-91; Greimas, 1987: 63-9). The dialogue is wrapped up within narratorial notes (vv. 9b and 13; cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 381-418; De Boer, 1992: 35-48). Where the narratorial note begins (v. 9b), from there the dialogue begins as a Sabbath controversy (v. 10; cf. Salier, 2004: 77-78), where the dialogue ends (v. 12), from there the narrative resumes (v. 13). The ABCB'A' structure of vv. 9b-13 forms a chiasmic structural framework (cf. Talbert, 1992: 122; see Diagram 32).

¹²⁸⁴ Köstenberger (2004: 181) is of the opinion that, "Only now, after the healing has taken place, does the text introduce crucial new information: the healing had been performed on a Sabbath (cf. 9:14; see Ridderbos, 1997: 19). What ensues is a controversy between Jesus and the Jewish leaders centering on proper Sabbath observance".

¹²⁸⁵ The term occurs in John only in 5:8-11 (cf. Mark 2:4, 9, 11, 12; 6:55; Acts 5:15; 9:33). In Acts 5:15, it is distinguished from κλινάριον (cot). Köstenberger (2004: 180) states that, "A mat (κράβαττος) was the bedding of the impoverished. Normally made of straw, it was light and could be rolled up and carried about by any healthy person".

¹²⁸⁶ Quast (1991/1996: 42) states, "Many authorities held that work on the Sabbath was forbidden, including things as healing and carrying your sleeping mat". See Brown, 1966: 208; Stibbe, 1993: 73-6; Painter, 1993: 1287.

¹²⁸⁷ The dramatic effect of the scene is more obvious through the picturisation of the healed man's 'walking with his mat'. Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 147-8; Resseguie, 2005: 88; Carson, 1991: 244-5.

Utterance	Form	Content
Jews	Rebuke, command, juridical utterance	As it was the Sabbath, it was not lawful for the man to carry his mat
Healed man	Explanation	The man made the healed person well said to him to take up his mat and walk
Jews	Question, quest about identity	The identity of the man who told the healed man to take up his mat and walk

Table 43: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 5:10-13

The dialogue is made up of utterance forms like *rebuke/command/juridical utterance* (v. 10b), *response/explanation* (v. 11b), and *quest/inquiry* (v. 12b; see Table 43). In the story, carrying the κράβαττον symbolically informs the reader about the Sabbath-breaking activity of the person. Contrary to the first dialogue, here the dialogue ends with a question raised by the Jews, τίς ἐστὶν ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὃς εἰπὼν σοι, ἄρον καὶ περιπάτει (v. 12b).¹²⁸⁸ The succeeding slots of dialogues (vv. 14, 15, 16-18) are narratorial attempts to reveal the identity of Jesus before the Jews (v. 12). Repetition of Jesus' utterance (i.e., vv. 11 and 12; also see v. 10) takes the reader analeptically to the first slot (v. 8; cf. Westcott, 1958: 82-3; cf. Lee, 1994: 102-3). Thus the interactive nature of the slots is brought to the notice of the reader. This dialogue sustains a combination of *juridical utterance* (v. 10b), *statement of frustration* (v. 11b) and a *question* (v. 12b; cf. Thomas, 1995: 12-4; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 187-8).¹²⁸⁹ The overall structure of the dialogue is as follows: *first*, a command is made; *second*, an explanation is proposed; and *third*, a further question is raised. The *command-response-question* sequence of the slot forms a new dialogic structure. While the dialogue of the first slot begins with a question (v. 6b) and ends with a command (v. 8b), the dialogue of the second slot begins with a command (v. 10b) and ends with a question (v. 12b). But in both cases, the responses of the man are placed at the center (vv. 7, 11). While in the first slot the dialogue was sign-focused, in the second slot dialogue is centered on the Sabbath controversy.¹²⁹⁰ Moreover, while the first dialogue results into a miracle (vv. 6b-8; cf. v. 9), the second dialogue emerges due to the performance of the miracle (v. 9; cf. 10b-12).

The functional aspects of the dialogue can be understood as follows. Even though Jesus is personally absent from the second slot, his authoritative utterance, "take up your mat and walk", plays a key role within the narratorial framework (vv. 11b, 12b; cf. 8b, 10b; cf. Kennedy, 1984:

¹²⁸⁸ Duke (1985: 106) states that, "... those who refer to him as 'the man', whether innocently (4:29; 9:11) or contemptuously (5:12; 9:16, 24; 10:33; 11:47, 50; 18:17, 29), are guilty of gross understatement".

¹²⁸⁹ Bennema (2009: 104) states that, "When 'the Jews' ask who gave him those instructions, the invalid cannot answer since he does not know his benefactor's identity. Therefore 'the Jews' cannot pursue the issue further (5:12-13). Until this moment, the invalid perceives Jesus only as 'the man who healed him'". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 147-8; Stibbe, 1993: 73-6; Painter, 1993: 219-22; Carson, 1991: 244-5.

¹²⁹⁰ Carson (1991: 244) opines that, "The Synoptic Gospels record a number of incidents in which Jesus' activity on the Sabbath becomes the focus of controversy (Mark 2:23-3:6; Luke 13:10-17; 14: 1-6; cf. Matthew 12:1-14). All the gospels report that disputes between Jesus and the Jewish authorities over the Sabbath were so sharp that they figured prominently in the rising desire to kill Jesus".

14-5; Culpepper, 1993: 138).¹²⁹¹ The healed man quotes Jesus in order to report the Jew how his words turned to be an 'utterance of power' (v. 11). The Jews quote the same utterance in order to raise a question about his identity (v. 12). Thus the same utterance is appeared on three levels within the characterial framework: for Jesus, those are words of authority (v. 8b); for the Jews, it was an experience (v. 11b); and for the reader, it was a controversial issue (v. 12). Sloyan, 1988: 79-80). The three utterances of the slot function as follows: *first*, the attitude of the Jews toward the issue is reflected (v. 10; cf. Bennema, 2009: 103);¹²⁹² *second*, the healed man's escapism from the accusation is brought to the notice of the reader;¹²⁹³ and *third*, the search for the identity of Jesus is emphasised (cf. Lee, 1994: 102-3).¹²⁹⁴ All these functional elements contribute to the controversial nature of the dialogue. Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 9) says that, "The fourth Gospel . . . acknowledges the provocative function of revelation in these chapters for all those who are caught up in a purely human way of thinking (cf. 5:44)". The dialogue episode turns from a sign-oriented one in the first slot (vv. 1-9a) to a controversy-centered one in the second slot (vv. 9b-13; cf. Thatcher, 2001: 191-7).¹²⁹⁵

The narratorial framework of the miraculous event and the controversial nature of the slot function as rhetorical devices in order to direct the attention of the reader toward Jesus (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 14-5; Genette, 1980: 25-9). The narrator's note at v. 13 put an end to the dialogue, thus generating suspense about the identity of the healer.¹²⁹⁶ The juridical concerns of the Jews about their search for the identity of Jesus, and the witness of the man about him (i.e., irrespective of his unknowing about his identity) are strategically fixed within the narrative framework.

¹²⁹¹ Dodd (1963: 178) is right in saying that, "The dialogue is connected somewhat artificially with the miracle by the question of Sabbath observance which it raised". See Dodd, 1960: 319-20; Carson, 1991: 244-5; Stibbe, 1991: 22; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112; Newman and Nida, 1980: 147-8; Painter, 1993: 219-22. The healed man reports about him as one made him well and said to him ἄρον τὸν κράββατόν σου καὶ περιπάτει; the Jews inquire about the man who said ἄρον καὶ περιπάτει. Beasley-Murray (1987: 74) says that, "It is . . . extraordinary that the Jewish leaders had no regard for the healing of a man who had been crippled for almost a lifetime; their concern was for the breaking of a Sabbath rule as defined in their tradition".

¹²⁹² At the same time they abnegate the miraculous activity of Jesus.

¹²⁹³ Dodd (1960: 320) is of the opinion that, "The transition from the narrative of the healing at Bethsaida to the discourse which follows is made by way of a dialogue which arises with dramatic propriety out of the situation. At the close of the narrative we learn (v. 9b) that the healing took place on a Sabbath, and this provoked criticism from the Jews". Moloney (1998: 168-9; cf. Painter, 1993: 219-222) puts it: "The man does not accept responsibility for the infringement of Sabbath practice; he only did what the stranger asked him to do (v. 11; cf. vv. 8-9)".

¹²⁹⁴ Culpepper (1993: 138) says that, "Neither the narrator's explanation that there was a crowd there (5:14) nor the man's report that Jesus made him 'whole' is sufficient to offset the impression that the lame man represents a man whom even the signs cannot lead to authentic faith". Cf. Carson, 1991: 244-5; Newman and Nida, 1980: 147-8; Painter, 1993: 73-6; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112.

¹²⁹⁵ Painter (1993: 221) observes that, "In John dialogue often signals disputation. The dialogues, not as elsewhere in the Gospel, those of John 9, nonetheless follow the same dramatic pattern where only two characters or groups appear on the scene at a time, heightening the dramatic effect and emphasising the force of the conflicts". For more details about the dialogue and dramatic discourse, refer to Bowles, 2010: 7-30. Also see Sloyan, 1988: 80; Genette, 1980: 33, 173; Sloyan, 1999/2003: 149-70; Womack, 2011: 91-3; Baldick, 1990: 61-2.

¹²⁹⁶ Stibbe (1991: 22; cf. Wallace, 1996: 583) states that, "In 5:13, we learn that Jesus had slipped away (v. 13) when the Pharisees arrived to interrogate the cripple at the pool". Cf. Thomas, 1995: 14; Painter, 1989: 34-5; Sloyan, 2007: 59; Moore, 1989: 25-40.

rhetorical intentions (cf. Vorster, 2009: 505-78; Mack and Robbins, 1989: 1-29).¹²⁹⁷ The chiastic structure of the slot (see Diagram 32) and the repetitive linguistic phenomenon of Jesus' utterance (vv. 8b, 11b, 12b) within it persuade the reader for having further knowledge about the person and work of Jesus (cf. Greenstein, 2003: 651-66; Funk, 1988: 1-26).

7.2.3. Slot Three (5:14) and Slot Four (5:15)

The content of the third and the fourth slots (vv. 14 and 15) can be understood only in relational terms.¹²⁹⁸ The setting of the third slot is 'in the temple' (ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ)¹²⁹⁹ and the interlocutors are Jesus and the healed person (cf. Resseguie, 2001: 134-6; Hakola, 2005: 113-4). The narrator shifts the setting from '(by) the pool' (v. 2) to 'the temple' (v. 14a) in order to tell the story contextually (cf. Wallace, 1996: 561).¹³⁰⁰ The festival season is an appropriate setting of the narrative in order to introduce religious themes like Sabbath breaking and related controversies (i.e., sign and sin; cf. Beutler, 2006: 15; Asiedu-Peprah, 2001: 233-4). Jesus takes the initiative and he finds (εὕρισκει) the man in the Temple (v. 14a; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 139; Robertson, 1932: 82; see Table 44).¹³⁰¹ The utterance in v. 14 has to be viewed from the standpoint of the interlocutors' searches, i.e., Jesus' search for the healed man (v. 14a) and the man's search for the healer (vv. 11, 13).

John 5:14	Overview
v.14: μετὰ ταῦτα εὕρισκει αὐτὸν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Ἵδε ὕγιής γέγονας, μηκέτι ἁμάρτανε, ἵνα μὴ χειρόν σοί τι γένηται.	<p>(1) The third slot (v. 14) of the episode introduces only one utterance unit and that is of Jesus (v. 14b);</p> <p>(2) While the first two slots are introduced as explicit dialogues (vv. 1-9a, 9b-13), the third slot is introduced as an implicit dialogue (v. 14b);</p> <p>(3) While Jesus is absent in the second slot (vv. 9b-13), here he 'finds' the healed man and convinces him about his identity. That leads the healed man to 'go away' and utter about the identity of Jesus (v. 15);</p> <p>(4) Jesus' action of finding the man, the interaction between them, and the man's action of going and telling reveal the implicit nature of the dialogue.</p>

Table 44: The dialogue of 5:14 within the narratorial framework

¹²⁹⁷ Court (1997: 75) says that, "An important aspect of a speech is the kind of strategy employed to strengthen the argument and to derive from it the maximum persuasive power".

¹²⁹⁸ While versus 14 and 15 and their utterance units are emerging out of two settings, the actions of the characters (i.e., Jesus' search for the man, the man's reporting, and the Jewish attempt to persecute) are closely connected.

¹²⁹⁹ The pool lay just north-northeast of the temple area—an indication of the evangelist's knowledge of Jerusalem in the days before the Roman destruction. See Brown, 1966: 208.

¹³⁰⁰ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 188) mentions that Jesus 'found' the man in the temple courtyard near where he had been healed.

¹³⁰¹ Sloyan (1988: 80) says that, "The two men are 'found' by Jesus (v. 14; 9:35), a soteriological phrase". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 255; Moloney, 1998: 169; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112; Blomberg, 2001: 110; Painter, 1993: 221-4; Carson, 1991: 245.

Jesus' utterance in v. 14b (i.e., "Ἴδε ὑγιής γεγονόςας and μηκέτι ἁμάρτανε")¹³⁰² implicitly makes it clear that the person who was healed should believe and become a follower.¹³⁰³ Köster (2004: 182) says that, "The syntax of Jesus' command stresses urgency and possibly implies that the man must, in the future, desist from a pattern of sin".¹³⁰⁴ The statement of Jesus strengthens the controversial nature of the episode as it reaffirms the healing that took place on the Sabbath day and connotes a notion of forgiveness of sins (cf. Van der Watt, 2005a: 101; Moloney (1998: 169; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 139; Quast, 1991/1996: 42) is of the opinion that this will lead to the man's being worse off than he was in his earlier long-suffering physical condition (v. 14; cf. v. 5) The man's physical problems have been overcome, but Jesus' warning that more is at stake. Sin will lead to a situation that is more damaging than physical illness. Thus implicit semantic domains of the dialogue reveal the wholistic healing (i.e., both physical and spiritual 'forgiveness of sin') and a demand for the discipleship of the man.

The utterance of Jesus in v. 14b led the man to "go away" (ἀπῆλθεν) in order to report the healing to the Jews. This 'went away talk' with the Jews creates a separate setting within the episode (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 188). It is not only the setting but also the interlocutors that change.¹³⁰⁷ Therefore, v. 15 has to be considered as a separate slot (i.e., fourth) of dialogue. Moloney (1998: 169) says that, "There is separation between Jesus and the man, as the latter 'went away' (v. 15a: ἀπῆλθεν ὁ ἄνθρωπος) to answer the question asked by 'the Jews' in v. 14" (Westcott, 1958: 83). There are no signs of 'following' or faith in this 'going away' to re-

¹³⁰² With the use of μηκέτι a prohibition is brought to the notice of the reader (cf. Wallace, 1996: 487).

¹³⁰³ Westcott (1958: 83) comments that, "The healing was incomplete till its spiritual lesson was brought out. Though Christ had withdrawn from the multitude He sought (cf. 1:43; 9:35) the object of His mercy; and so at least the man had already learnt, that he repaired to the temple, as we must suppose, to offer thanks for the restoration directly after his cure". Cf. Ridderbos, 1997: 189; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112; Blomberg, 2001: 110; Painter, 1993: 221-4; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74; Barrett, 1978: 255; Morris, 1995: 272.

¹³⁰⁴ Newman and Nida (1980: 150) say that, "Jesus' command and warning, 'so stop sinning or something will happen to you', should not be taken to imply that Jesus was saying that the man's illness was caused by sin. Evidently the man had been lame since birth. 'Stop sinning' may be rendered 'cease your sinning' or 'no longer sin'. Moloney (1998: 173) notes that, "The narrative of a cure and its aftermath—interrupted by the expression μὴ ἁμάρτανε and the change of place in v. 14—is resumed. In the light of the interpretation suggested for v. 14 the cure is not an inability to transcend the fact that 'Jesus' had healed him is remarkable".

¹³⁰⁵ Quast (1991/1996: 42) says that, "Jesus, and not the paralytic, is the central figure of the narrative. Again, in the characteristic knowledge of people (5:6, 14), Jesus took all the initiative in resurrecting the man to a new life".

¹³⁰⁶ Moloney (1998: 169) opines that, "His [healed man's] most recent encounter in the Temple, where Jesus had appeared to himself as someone who transcends the Sabbath (v. 14), has made no lasting impact on the cured man. He has not moved since his original assessment of Jesus in v. 7: 'Sir, I have no one (Κύριε, ἄνθρωπον οὐκ ἔχω)'" (cf. Painter, 1993: 96; Brown, 1966: 208; Painter, 1993: 221-4; Blomberg, 2001: 110; Barrett, 1978: 255; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112).

¹³⁰⁷ While in the third slot Jesus and the healed man are the interlocutors, in slot four the healed man and the Jews are the dialogue partners (cf. vv. 14 and 15).

¹³⁰⁸ Robertson (1932: 82) comments about the use 'went away and told' as follows: "Both aorist active in v. 15. Instead of giving heed to the warning of Jesus about his own sins he went off and told the Jews that now he had been healed. The man was who had commanded him to take up his bed on the Sabbath Day, to clear himself with the Jews and escape a possible stoning". Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112; Blomberg, 2001: 110; Carson, 1997: 110; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74; Barrett, 1978: 255; Newman and Nida, 1980: 149-50.

name of a human being, ‘Jesus’, to ‘the Jews’ (v. 15b; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 139)”.¹³⁰⁹ The man’s response is recounted through the language of the narrator in v. 15b (see Table 45).

John 5:15	Overview
v.15: ἀπῆλθεν ὁ ἄνθρωπος καὶ ἀνήγγειλεν τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ἐστὶν ὁ ποιήσας αὐτὸν ὑγιή.	<p>(1) The fourth slot (v. 15) of the episode introduces only one utterance unit (v. 15b), that is of the healed man;</p> <p>(2) While the first two slots are introduced as explicit dialogues (vv. 1-9a, 9b-13), the third and the fourth slots are introduced as implicit dialogues (vv. 14b, 15b);</p> <p>(3) The utterance unit of the fourth slot is introduced in passive voice format (v. 15b);</p> <p>(4) The healed man’s ‘went away’ and his reporting to the Jews (v. 15) and the Jewish reaction to Jesus (vv. 16-18) provide seams of dialogue within the text;</p> <p>(5) While Jesus is present in the first and the third slots (vv. 1-9a, 14), he is absent in the second and the fourth slots (vv. 9b-13, 15).</p>

Table 45: The dialogue of 5:15 within the narratorial framework

Jesus’ utterance to the man in the third slot (v. 14) and the man’s reporting to the Jews in the fourth slot (v. 15) have implicit references of dialogues (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 26, 138, 139). The following observations are important to note: *first*, Jesus does not reveal his personal details to the man in his utterance in v. 14; but the man is able to recall his name (i.e., Ἰησοῦς ἐστὶν, cf. Wallace, 1966: 458, 539) and his activity (ὁ ποιήσας αὐτὸν ὑγιή) to the Jews (v. 15);¹³¹⁰ *second*, the man’s unfamiliarity with Jesus is recorded by the narrator in v. 13: “the man who had been healed did not know who it was” (cf. v. 12); but now he is able to tell about who the healer is (v. 15);¹³¹¹ and *third*, the man is knowledgeable about the identity of Jesus only after his meeting with him in the temple (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 188-90; Windisch, 1993: 40).¹³¹² The reader of the story experiences surprise as the man is now able to share about the name and identity of Jesus.¹³¹³

¹³⁰⁹ Although the man clearly “represents a particular response to the gospel” (Ridderbos, 1997: 190), “all interest in him ceases after v. 15” (Bultmann, 1971: 243). Indeed, he is a representative of unbelief and “is going nowhere in faith” (cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 183).

¹³¹⁰ “According to Staley (1991: 62-3)”, Bennema (2009: 106) says, “the man’s action in 5:15 should be understood positively—by supplying the name of the healer the man hopes ‘the Jews’ will be impressed. Thus the man serves in his own way as a faithful witness”.

¹³¹¹ Neyrey (2007: 103) says that, “. . . although this healing should bring respect and honor to Jesus (see Mark 1:28, 45; Luke 7:16-17), it instead precipitates a controversy that seeks to shame him (5:15). Nevertheless, the story formally contains the elements of a typical healing story”.

¹³¹² Asiedu-Peprah (2001: 26) says that, “The man defends himself by pointing to another person whose identity he presently does not know as the instigator of his action (5:11). He eventually identifies this other person as Jesus to ‘the Jews’ (5:15)”.

¹³¹³ Some of the principles of ‘Conversation Analysis’ (CA) have to be considered here in order to know the implicit nature of the text (cf. Tan, 1993: 51). Bowles (2010: 36-7) says that, “The task facing the analyst is to identify a *storytelling episode* within a stretch of talk. The simplest method is to amalgamate teller and listener contributions into a main story line made up of narrative clauses and propositions”. This method helps us to see the way the narrator communicates the story with the reader through both explicit and implicit references.

These observations make the reader reconsider the possibility of a dialogue between Jesus and the healed man in the temple.¹³¹⁴ A reader who reads the third and fourth slots together can distinguish seams of implicit dialogues. The abbreviating tendencies of the narrative are conspicuous here. The semantic details of the fourth dialogue can be summarised into 'the story of Jesus'.

The dialogic forms of the two slots can be understood in the following way (cf. Muilenburg, 1965-76; Chandler, 2002/2007: 189). Jesus' utterance to the man in the third slot maintains the following sequence: *first*, it reaffirms the factor of healing (v. 14a; ὑγιής γέγονας); *second*, the result is given in the form of a command (v. 14b; μηκέτι ἁμάρτανε); and *third*, the result is based on the man's obedience to the command (v. 14c; ἵνα μὴ χεῖρόν σοί τι γένηται). Jesus affirms the result (v. 14a), on the basis of the affirmation he commands another thing (v. 14b), and on that basis suggests the result (v. 14c; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 73-6). Thus the utterance maintains an *affirmation-command-result* sequence within itself. But the overall structure of the narrative sets up a *first* (v. 14a), an *implicit dialogue* (v. 14), and a *subsequent action* (v. 15a) sequence. Moloney (1993: 169) says that, "The characters in the story will continue to debate questions that surround the proper celebration of the Sabbath, but such issues are transcended by Jesus' words to the man in the Temple".¹³¹⁵ The utterance recorded (i.e., without inverted commas) in v. 15b is a voice statement. Its form can be identified as *information* about the identity of Jesus (cf. V. 1958: 83; Bennema, 2009: 106).¹³¹⁶ As in the case of the third slot, in the fourth slot too a *first* (v. 15a), *implicit dialogue* (v. 15b), and the *resultant action* (v. 16) sequence is maintained (1993: 223; cf. Witherington, 1995: 139) states that, "In John 5:15 the healed man becomes an informer, reporting to the Jews, through the narrator, that 'Jesus is the man who made me whole'".¹³¹⁷ This is a clear sign of the abbreviating tendencies of John. The utterances recorded in v.14 and 15 in two different contexts (also between different interlocutors) can be understood as parts of dialogues that happened, *first*, between Jesus and the healed person and, *second*, between the Jews and the healed person (cf. Martyn, 1979: 69-70).¹³¹⁸ Windisch (1993: 40) analyses the structure of the five-slot episode of 5:1-18 in a sequential fashion.¹³¹⁹ Once again, the

¹³¹⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 98) says that, "The second, apparently chance encounter between Jesus and the man is clearly regarded by the evangelist as intended by God (Jesus 'found' the man; cf. 9:35a). This meeting takes place in the temple complex, where the evangelist situates Jesus' controversy with the Jews (7:28; 8:20, 59; 10:21-23; Barrett, 1978: 255; Carson, 1991: 245-6; Blomberg, 2001: 110; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112; Newman, 1980: 149-50).

¹³¹⁵ Cf. Milne, 1993: 96; Barrett, 1978: 255; Blomberg, 2001: 110; Carson, 1991: 245-6.

¹³¹⁶ Smith (1999: 133) discusses that, "... his [i.e., Jesus'] warning functions to anticipate the man's return to the Jews (v. 15). Now the man knows who Jesus is, and he 'reports' on Jesus to the Jews".

¹³¹⁷ Hitchcock (1923/1993: 15; cf. MacRae, 1993: 103-13) says that, "The vividness, variety and progression of the scenes, together with the number, individuality, and distinctness of the characters; the play of question and answer; the pointed and allusive manner of the Master's sayings; the reality of His surroundings; and the growing interest in the narrative, give dramatic force and movement to the work". Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 110; Barrett, 1978: 255; Newman, 1980: 149-50; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112.

¹³¹⁸ Talbert (1992: 122) says that, "When the man found out, he told that it was Jesus (vv. 13-15)".

¹³¹⁹ Windisch (1993: 40; cf. Brooks, 1984: 3-5; Martyn, 1979: 69-70; Chatman, 1978: 43-7; Ricoeur, 1986: 198; Coloe, 1989: 3-6) states that, "It (i.e., the story of the paralysed man) runs to five scenes: Scene 1, the

nature of dialogues in the Johannine narratives is brought to the notice of the reader through these utterance units.¹³²⁰ In both cases, the *action-dialogue-action* format is sustained (cf. vv. 14-16).

The implicit dialogues in the third and the fourth slots (vv. 14 and 15) function as follows (cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 23-57). There is an interconnection between the first question raised by Jesus (v. 6b) and the present statement (v. 14a), i.e., between “Do you want to be made well?” (Θέλεις ὑγιῆς γενέσθαι;) and “You have been made well” (ὑγιῆς γέγονας).¹³²¹ V. 14 plainly states that Jesus ‘made him well’ not just physically but also spiritually.¹³²² While κράβαττον stands out as a common word for both the first and the second slots (vv. 10, 11; cf. vv. 8, 9), the repetitive usage of ὑγιῆς (vv. 6b, 11, 14, 15) connects the first four slots together (cf. Windisch, 1993: 40; Powell, 1990: 36-7). Painter (1993: 222) remarks that, “Explicit is the emphasis on the fact that the man was made whole (ὑγιῆς), in Jesus’ question (v. 6), the narration of the event (v. 9), the question of the Jews (v. 11), the statement of Jesus (v. 14) and the answer of the healed man (v. 15)”. Jesus’ ultimate aim through the sign is to make the person healthy, pure, sinless and wholesome.¹³²³ This factor is continually emphasised through the expression ὑγιῆς γέγονας.¹³²⁴ But all through the episode, the healed man gives no indication of “believing” or of becoming a follower of Jesus.¹³²⁵

The third and fourth slots increase the controversial and dramatic situation within the episode by way of revealing the identity of Jesus (cf. Bowles, 2010: 7-30; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24).¹³²⁶

‘synoptic’ pericope, but with particularly rich local colouring; Scene 2, deliberation between the healed man and the Jews . . . ; Scene 3, a further encounter between the healed man and Jesus (v. 14, cf. 9:35-38); Scene 4 (only sketched), the healed man informs the Jews that Jesus was his doctor (v. 15); Scene 5, the Jews meet with Jesus (the situation can only be surmised) and raise their objection (v. 16)”. Brodie (1993: 234) sees time-related expressions and divisions within the text, like *first*, “After that was a feast . . .” (*meta tauta ēn* . . . , v. 1); *second*, “Now there was a person . . . thirty eight years . . .” (*ēn de* . . . , v. 5); *third*, “Now it was the Sabbath . . .” (*ēn de* . . . , 9b); and *fourth*, “After that . . .” (*meta tauta* . . . , v. 14).

¹³²⁰ Fortna (2001: 215) counts 5:15-17 into the category of ‘narrative’. He is not able to recognize the implicit references of dialogues in vv. 15 and 17. Maniparampil (2004: 241) structures the entire dialogue turned monologue section into three parts: *first*, healing of the paralysed (5:1-9); *second*, controversy (5:10-18); and *third*, discourse (5:19-47).

¹³²¹ The latter part of Jesus’ statement in the third slot (μηκέτι ἀμαρτάνε, ἵνα μὴ χεῖρόν σοί τι γένηται) hints to the healed man’s earlier sinful condition. See Blomberg, 2001: 110; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112; Carson, 1991: 245-6; Barrett, 1978: 255; Painter, 1993: 221-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 149-50.

¹³²² Bennema (2009: 104) says that, “. . . in 5:14, Jesus moves to a spiritual level by introducing the concept of sin”.

¹³²³ The repetitive style of the narrator in order to emphasise a certain factor is noticeable here (“made well”; cf. Falk, 1971: 42-50).

¹³²⁴ Köstenberger (2004: 182) says that, “The perfect verb tense in ‘you have become well’ (ὑγιῆς γέγονας) indicates the man’s continual state of well-being, perhaps in contrast to other healings at that site that proved less than permanent”. Cf. Painter, 1993: 221-4; Morris, 1995: 272; Barrett, 1978: 255; Blomberg, 2001: 110; Carson, 1991: 245-6; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112; Milne, 1993: 96.

¹³²⁵ Quast (1991/1996: 42) says that, “. . . there are several hints that he was a dull man of little initiative, faith, insight, moral character, or even gratitude (John 5: 7, 13-15)”. Ridderbos (1987/1997: 190) opines that, “This story thus represents a particular response to the gospel, one with which, without any further explanation, the Evangelist unmistakably confronts his readers”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 255; Painter, 1993: 221-4; Carson, 1991: 245-6; Newman and Nida, 1980: 149-50; Blomberg, 2001: 110; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74.

¹³²⁶ Robertson (1932: 82; cf. Elam, 1980: 135-207; Brodie, 1993: 151-2; Hess-Lüttich, 1985: 199-214; Harrop, 1992: 10-16) comments about v. 14 as follows: “Dramatic present as in 1:45, possibly after search as in 9:35”.

The revelatory character of the dialogues and the worldview of the narrator is characteristically within the slots. While the healed man retreats after the fourth slot advances with his messianic claims (vv. 17b, 19b-47). As Warren and Wellek (1955: 21) that, pleasure and utility coalesce within the text. While the reader enjoys the aesthetic value of the text, s/he also is persuaded by it 'to be made whole'.¹³²⁷ The narrator presents the person and work of Jesus by means of the characters of the story.¹³²⁸ His method of employing dialogues in implicit language induces reader to get involved in the activity of meaning-making.

7.2.4. Slot Five (5:16-18)

The first four slots of dialogue guide the reader toward a conflict-oriented dialogue between Jesus and the Jews. The third, fourth and fifth dialogues are implicit in nature as the narrator includes only the most important statements made by the character(s) (vv. 14b, 15b, 17b).¹³²⁹ The first time in the episode Jesus and the Jews interact face to face as dialogue partners. The episode begins with the expression καὶ διὰ in v. 16 and the narrator describes the development of the episode in the following sequence: *first*, a reference to the Jewish persecution (v. 16a; ἐδίωκον); another mention of the Sabbath controversy (v. 16b; cf. Weiss, 1991: 311-21); *third*, the utterance of the episode: 'Ο πατήρ μου ἕως ἄρτι ἐργάζεται καὶ γὰρ ἐργάζομαι (v. 17); *fourth*, an antagonistic attitude of the Jews toward Jesus (v. 18; cf. Dodd, 1963: 317; Tuckwell, 2001: 139).¹³³¹ Moloney (1998: 170; cf. Westcott, 1958: 83-4) describes:

‘The Jews’ interpret Jesus’ words accurately. According to their judgment he offends on three scores: *first*, He has broken the Sabbath by telling the man to carry his mat and by healing (v. 18b); *second*, He has called God his Father by claiming that the one who works on the Sabbath is his Father (v. 18c); *third*, He has made himself equal to God by claiming that as God works on the Sabbath, so does he (v. 18d).

¹³²⁷ The narrator’s dialogue with the reader is a major factor to emphasise here (cf. Moore, 1989: 25-6; Tuckwell, 1993: 25-64). For more details about the reader and the text interactions, refer to Thiselton, 1992: 1-10; Van Lausberg, 1988: 37-145; Classen, 2000: 91-8; Van Dijk, 1976: 23-57.

¹³²⁸ This helps the narrator to sustain the testimonial function of the dialogues within the overall structure of the Gospel. Moloney (1999: 23) says that, “This function (also called the function of attestation) refers to the relationship (effectual or intellectual) that the narrator has to the story s/he tells. The narrator can fulfill this function in various ways, for example, by indicating the sources of his/her information, the degree of precision of his/her memories, or the way that the story (or a part of it) awakens in him/her”.

¹³²⁹ Robertson (1932: 83) states that, “Jesus puts himself on a par with God’s activity and thus justifies his breaking the Sabbath”. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 110-1; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112-3; Barrett, 1978: 255-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-5; Carson, 1991: 247-50; Newman and Nida, 1980: 150-2.

¹³³⁰ Moloney (1998: 169) states that, “The narrator states that the man’s evidence against Jesus’ being the Messiah who broke Sabbath legislation is the reason for ‘the Jews’ instituting a legal process and persecuting him (v. 16). διώκειν means both ‘to persecute’ and ‘to bring a charge against, to prosecute’”.

¹³³¹ Robertson (1932: 83) comments that, “John repeats this clause ‘they sought to kill him’ in 7:1, 19, 25; 8:37, 44. Their own blood was up on this Sabbath issue and they bend every energy to put Jesus to death. If this is a bitter anger, murderous wrath, will go on and grow for two years”. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 110-1; Newman and Nida, 1980: 150-2; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-5; Barrett, 1978: 255-6.

Jesus' central statement in v. 17b became a blasphemy according to the Jewish law and they are seeking all the more to kill him (vv. 16-18). A dialogue is implied as Jewish antagonism is on an increase throughout vv. 16-18.¹³³² There is every possibility of a dialogue between Jesus and the Jews on legal grounds as the word ἐδίωκον (v. 16) can also mean 'bringing charge against somebody'.¹³³³ In the fourth slot, the explicit topic of discussion is disclosure of Jesus' identity. In the fifth slot, Jesus' utterance points the reader toward an important theological position regarding equilibrium: *first*, equilibrium between the Father and Jesus; and *second*, one between the Father's work and Jesus' work (cf. Rensberger, 2001: 15-23; Culpepper, 1983: 114, 140).¹³³⁴ Even though the repetitive statements, ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ περιπάτει and ὑγιῆς γέγονας, are predominant all through the five slots, the last statement 'Ὁ πατήρ μου ἔως ἄρτι ἐργάζεται καὶ γὼ ἐργάζομαι (v. 17b) can be considered the punch line of the entire episode.¹³³⁵ The semantics of the implicit dialogue points out the equality of Jesus' work with that of the Father (see Table 46).¹³³⁶

John 5:16-18	Overview
v.16:καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἐδίωκον οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι τὸν Ἰησοῦν, ὅτι ταῦτα ἐποίει ἐν σαββάτῳ. v.17:ὁ δὲ [ἰησοῦς] ἀπεκρίνατο αὐτοῖς, 'Ὁ πατήρ μου ἔως ἄρτι ἐργάζεται καὶ γὼ ἐργάζομαι. v.18:διὰ τοῦτο οὖν μᾶλλον ἐζήτουν αὐτὸν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἀποκτείνειν, ὅτι οὐ μόνον ἔλυνε τὸ σάββατον, ἀλλὰ καὶ πατέρα ἴδιον ἔλεγεν τὸν θεὸν ἴσον ἑαυτὸν ποιῶν τῷ θεῷ.	(1) The fifth slot (vv. 16-18) of the episode introduces only one utterance unit, that is of Jesus (v. 17b); (2) While the first two slots are introduced as explicit dialogues (vv. 1-9a, 9b-13), the third, the fourth and the fifth slots are introduced in the form of implicit dialogues (vv. 14b, 15b, 16-18); (3) While Jesus is present in the first, the third and the fifth slots (vv. 1-9a, 14, 16-18), he is absent in the second and the fourth slots (vv. 9b-13, 15); (4) The fifth slot begins in the form of a pure narrative (v. 16), advances as an implicit dialogue (v. 17), and concludes as yet another narrative (v. 18).

Table 46: The dialogue of 5:16-18 within the narratorial framework

¹³³² Neyrey (2007: 106) says that, "... Jesus' remark in 5:17, while justifying his Sabbath actions, takes the crisis to a new level: 'My Father is still working, and I also am working'". Cf. Robertson, 1932: 83-4; Witkamp, 1985: 19-47; Wallace, 1996: 649.

¹³³³ The expression ἐδίωκον is the third person plural imperfect active indicative of διώκω, which means "to put in rapid motion", "to pursue", "to follow", "pursue the direction of" (Luke 17:23), "to follow eagerly", "endeavour earnestly to acquire" (Rom 9:30, 31; 12:13), "to press forwards" (Phil 3:12), and "to pursue with malignity, persecute" (Matthew 5:10, 11, 12, 44). The movements recorded between Jesus' utterances in v. 17 and v. 19 also prompt the reader to think about a dialogue between Jesus and the Jews. Cf. Perschbacher, 1990: 104-5; Dodd, 1963: 317; Quast, 1991/1996: 42-3; Schneiders, 1999/2003: 149-70; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-5; Carson, 1991: 247-50; Barrett, 1978: 255-6; Blomberg, 2001: 110-1; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112-3.

¹³³⁴ Nicol (1972: 117) says that, "... the word *ergon* indicates how closely the works and words are related, but it also more specifically reveals much about the relation between event and interpretation".

¹³³⁵ Martyn (1979: 69-70) opines that, "One is tempted to find in verses 16-18 a fifth scene in which the actors are Jesus and the Jews. However, if we are to think of a fifth scene at all, we should probably allot to it verses 16-47, and we should then call it a sermon preached by Jesus to the Jews". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 150-2; Blomberg, 2001: 110-1; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-5; Carson, 1991: 247-50; Barrett, 1978: 255-6.

¹³³⁶ O'Day (2001: 29-30) says that, "The interrelationship of theology and christology in FG is clearly seen in the names FE uses for God. God is referred to as 'the one who sent me [Jesus]' (John 4:34; 5:38; 8:29) and as 'the Father' (5:17; 6:45; 14:16). Both of these titles highlight God's relationship with Jesus".

The fifth slot's central focus is the controversial dialogue between Jesus and the Jews. The dialogue unfolds in an implicit format. Painter (1993: 221) states that, "John 5:1-18 is complex pronouncement story because the evangelist has transformed a simple miracle story into a rejection story. The memorable pronouncement comes at the conclusion of a set of dialogues followed only by the narrator's indication of the rejection of Jesus by the Jews who (ἐξήτουν) to kill him".¹³³⁸ The dialogue keeps the Sabbath controversy at the centre, and reveals Jesus' relationship with the Father (Ὁ πατήρ μου ἕως ἄρτι ἐργάζεται καὶ γὰρ ἐργάζομαι). *second*, directs reader's attention toward the protagonist, *third*, teaches the Jews through a discourse in vv. 19-47, and *fourth*, persuades the reader to be made whole.¹³³⁹ The whole story is told in order to lead the reader to the most important christological statement in v. 17. It leads him/her toward the Jewish animosity narrative in v. 18 and the succeeding miracle section in vv. 19-47 (cf. Sloyan, 1988: 80; Resseguie, 2005: 113).¹³⁴⁰ Thus the plot structure of the story is progressive and systematic in effect (cf. Ricoeur, 1985: 2: 7-8; Brooks, 1984: 198). The narrator's use of literary and stylistic elements, like *explicit* and *implicit* dialogues (vv. 1-9, 14, 15, 16-18), portrayal of the *presence* and *absence* of the protagonist (vv. 1-9, 14, 15, 16-18, cf. vv. 10-13, 15), and the *foregrounding* and the *backgrounding* of the interlocutors are rhetorical in fashion.¹³⁴² Köstenberger (2004: 183) is right when he says that, "Jesus' ar

¹³³⁷ Westcott (1958: 84) says that, "The form of the sentence is remarkable. Christ places His work as co-ordinate with that of the Father, and not as dependent on it". Painter (1989: 35) states that, "In fact there is a sense in which the paradigmatic rejection story. It provides the dual bases for Jewish rejection of Jesus, as a law-breaker and blasphemer (5:17; 10:33) and describes the rejection in terms of persecution and the attempt (ἐξήτουν) to kill him (5:18)".

¹³³⁸ Painter (1993: 215; cf. Witkamp, 1985: 19-47; Robbins, 1989: 1-29) opines that, "Though the development of the dialogues in the context of conflict Jesus is made to justify his action with a *pronouncement*: 'My Father is working until now, and I am working', 5:17". Witherington (1995: 139) considers v. 17b as the *agency language* of Jesus. Bennema, 2002: 111; Witkamp, 1985: 19-47; Brodie, 1993: 245; Duke, 1985: 47-8, 73-4.

¹³³⁹ Blomberg (2001: 110-11) is of the opinion that, "Verses 16-18 are best taken as the conclusion to the story. Verse 17 contains a climactic declaration that makes verses 1-18 not only a healing miracle but also a pronouncement story, exactly as in Mark 2:1-12. At the same time, verses 16-18 prepare the way for the discourse that occupies the rest of John 5". See Resseguie, 2001: 62; Asiedu-Pepurah, 2001: 233-5; Mani, 2004: 243; Duke, 1985: 77; Barrett, 1978: 255-6; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112-3; Newman and Nida, 1987: 2; Carson, 1991: 247-50; Blomberg, 2001: 110-1. Moloney (1998: 170; cf. Weiss, 1991: 311-21) points out that "From this point on there is a trial in process, and the protagonists are 'the Jews' who act as accusers and Jesus defends himself by revealing the truth. Jewish Sabbath theology lies behind the process". Moloney (1998: 17) says, "A trial has been set in motion in which the accusers and the defendant have different answers to the question". Cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 42; Robbins, 1989: 1-29; Talbert, 1992: 124; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-5.

¹³⁴⁰ Stibbe (1993: 77) says, "... two charges are brought by them: that Jesus performed the miracle on a day which broke the Law, and that he was calling God his Father, thereby implying equality with God (v. 18). The charge of 'equality with God' is the paramount one". Painter (1989: 34-5) says, "... the first account of an attempt to kill Jesus (5:18). This concludes the rejection story, though the evangelist has developed a lengthy discourse setting the basis and meaning of the pronouncement (5:17), which is the text of the discourse (5:19-30)".

¹³⁴¹ While Jesus is foregrounded at the climax of the story, the Jews and the healed man are backgrounded (vv. 19-47). While Jesus is the only speaker in vv. 16-47, the Jews and the healed man are mere spectators.

¹³⁴² Bennema (2009: 108; cf. Thomas, 1995: 19-20; Lee, 1994: 100-1) says that, "Jesus expounds his status in v. 5:17, revealing that he is on a par with God because he has authority to give life and to judge, both prerogatives". Cf. Lausberg, 1998: 2-35; Black, 2001: 2; Warren and Wellek, 1955: 3-12; Fiorenza, 2001: 43-44.

5:17 becomes the foundation for 5:19-47".¹³⁴³ The setting of the story changes in all the five slots. The narrator reveals that the setting of Jesus' dramatic action is 'this world' and the characters are the flesh-and-blood personalities.¹³⁴⁴ From a reader's point of view, the dramatic, dialogic, controversial and act and action oriented structure of the episode is pragmatic and communicative (cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 23-57).¹³⁴⁵ The communication between the narrator and the reader facilitates the dialogue beyond the textual horizon (cf. Vanhoozer, 1998: 27-8; Thiselton, 1992: 1-10). While the content of the dialogue is Jesus' equality with the Father, it is presented in the form of an implicit (here, controversial) dialogue. It guides the reader toward the source of Jesus' authority and power, i.e., his Father in heaven.

7.3. The Dialogues (5:6-18) and the Monologue (5:19-47)

John chap. 5 begins the Sabbath controversy and strengthens the sharp conflict that begun in chap. 2 (vv. 13-22) between Jesus and the Jewish authorities. In 5:19-47, Jesus elaborates on his statement in 5:17 and defends himself against the charges of his Jewish counterparts, i.e., he is a Sabbath breaker, and he is a blasphemer who claims to be equal to God (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 113).¹³⁴⁶ The monologue section in vv. 19-47 can be considered as an exposition of Jesus' statement in v. 17 (cf. Smith, 1999: 134-44; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 102-29).¹³⁴⁷ As Chatman (1978: 173-74) says that, "dramatic monologue subsumes that a character speaks to another, silent, character". The episode as a whole is narrated by the help of actions and movements, dialogues and a monologue, and traits of narratives. The following scholarly views enable us to understand the monologue section¹³⁴⁸ in relation to the five-slot dialogue section (vv. 19-47; cf. vv. 1-18).¹³⁴⁹ Painter (1993: 227; cf. Dodd, 1960: 326) discusses about v. 17 as follows: "It asserts the equality of his action with the action of the Father. But the *main line* of exposition in the ensuing discourse is that the Son does only the works of the Father, that there is an identity of his own action with the

¹³⁴³ "Jesus said to them" (5:17): the Greek has "answered", not merely "said" (TNIV). The grammatical form of "answered" may suggest legal overtones (cf. 5:19; see Carson, 1991: 247; Köstenberger, 2004: 184). Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 150-2; Blomberg, 2001: 110-1; Carson, 1991: 247-50; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-5; Blomberg, 2001: 115-8; Barrett, 1978: 255-6.

¹³⁴⁴ Harrop (1992: 16) opines that, "Theatre performance is a highly complex mimesis, and any one sign will retain the multifarious possibilities that all other signs have fed into it". Cf. Green, 2003: 11-36; Lee, 1994: 98-107; Brant, 2004: 172; Elam, 1980: 135-207; Brodie, 1993: 245; Smith, 1999: 132-4.

¹³⁴⁵ Cf. Funk, 1988: 27-58; Tan, 1993: 28-9; Van Dijk, 1985: 50; Bowles, 2010: 7-30.

¹³⁴⁶ Westcott (1958: 84) opines that, "By the 'work' of the Father we must understand at once the maintenance of the material creation and the redemption and restoration of all things, in which the Son co-operated with Him (Heb 1:3; Eph 1:9-10)". Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 183; Painter, 1993: 214-27; Newman and Nida, 1980: 151.

¹³⁴⁷ Westcott (1958: 84) says that, "The first part of the comprehensive answer of the Lord to the Jews deals with His Nature and prerogatives: *first*, in relation to the Father (vv. 19-23); and *second*, in relation to men (vv. 24-29)". Westcott (1958: 88) further says that, "This (vv. 30-47) second main division of the discourse consists, like the first, of two parts. The witness to the Son is first laid open (vv. 31-40); and then the rejection of the witness in its cause and end (vv. 41-47)". See Brown, 1966: 216-30; Barrett, 1978: 257-70; Carson, 1991: 250-66; Painter, 1993: 227-52; Köstenberger, 2004: 184-95; Moloney, 1998: 176-90; Milne, 1993: 100-2; Blomberg, 2001: 112-8.

¹³⁴⁸ Witherington (1995: 141-47) prefers to call this section a 'discourse' than a 'monologue'.

¹³⁴⁹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 75-81) divides the two sections under the following titles: *first*, "Jesus the life-giver and judge" (vv. 19-30); and *second*, "witness to Jesus in face of Jewish unbelief" (vv. 31-47).

action of the Father because of his dependence on the Father (5:19-21, 23-27)". Blomberg 112; cf. Witherington, 1995: 141-7) opines that, "The passage falls logically into two verses 19-30 Jesus explains that as the divine Son he is merely imitating his Father; in verse he provides corroborating testimony to the truth of his claims".¹³⁵⁰ Brown (1966: 216) s: "The Sabbath motif was dominant in the healing at Jerusalem; and in the discourse it comes fore, not only explicitly in v. 17 but implicitly in the reference to the power to give life judge in vv. 19-25".¹³⁵¹ These scholars attempt to see the logical connection between the dialogue (vv. 1-18) with the succeeding monologue (vv. 19-47; cf. Chatman, 1978: Maniparampil, 2004: 243-7).¹³⁵²

In 5:19, the episode turns from the five-slot dialogue to a dramatic monologue (until v. 47 19-29, the narrator emphasises "Telling the Truth" aspects (see the Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγ expressions in vv. 19, 24, and 25; cf. Talbert, 1992: 124-5).¹³⁵³ In this section, Jesus em his equality with the Father. In the latter section (vv. 30-47), confirmatory testimonies to J introduced (cf. Sloyan, 1988: 77-84; Quast, 1991/1996: 42-6). The five-slot dialogue sect 1-18) is integrally connected to the two-level monologue section (vv. 19-47; cf. Smith, 19

¹³⁵⁰ Moloney (1998: 177, 186) structures vv. 19-47 as follows: *first*, vv. 19-30: (a) A theological introduction with the relationship of love and dependence that exists between Father and Son, and the fruits this relationship bear for those listening to the discourse (vv. 19-20); (b) As the Father gives life, the Son exercises an authority to judge: it is given to him by the Father (v. 21); (c) The basis of the Son's authority to judge: it is given to him by the Father (v. 22); (d) Jesus addresses the audience, insisting on the need to honor both the Father and the Son (v. 23); (e) The hour is coming . . . when they will hear the voice. Jesus is the life-giver, but judgment is closely associated (vv. 24-25); (f) The basis of the Son's authority to give life: it is given to him by the Father (v. 26); (g) The Son exercises his authority to judge as the Son of Man (v. 27); (h) The hour is coming when (they) will hear the voice. Judgment, but life-giving is closely associated (vv. 28-29); and (i) A theological conclusion deals with the relationship between the one who sends and the one sent, and the fruits this relationship could bear for those listening to the discourse. *Second*, vv. 31-47: (a) Jesus raises the problem of an acceptable witness (vv. 31-32); (b) With the Son presented to "the Jews" (vv. 33-40): (i) John the Baptist (vv. 33-35); (ii) The works of Jesus (v. 36); and (iii) The works of the unseen Father (vv. 37-40); (c) Jesus presents contrasting understandings of *doxa* (vv. 41-44); and (d) "the Jews" are accused by the writings of Moses (vv. 45-47). According to Blomberg (2001: 112), "The character of Jesus leads him to reply with an uninterrupted discourse that occupies the rest of John 5. In fact, it is the only discourse of Jesus in the Fourth Gospel that is completely without interruption".

¹³⁵¹ Moloney (1998: 177; cf. Elam, 1980: 173) observes that, "The Sabbath question continues to be central though the literary form shifts from a narrative built on action and dialogue (vv. 5-18) to a monologue (vv. 19-47). The same two players are present: as Jesus speaks, 'the Jews' are addressed". Moloney (1998: 186) states: "A trial is in progress in which 'the Jews' are the accusers (cf. v. 18) and Jesus is the defendant (vv. 19-47)". Stibbe (1993: 77) states that, "The passage is composed of five carefully related and sequential materials. All of them are unified by the legal symbolism of the Gospel". He (1993: 77) divides the five materials as follows: *first*, the prosecution, defence, charge and desired sentence (vv. 16-18); *second*, first defence of Jesus—realized eschatology (vv. 19-25); *third*, second defence of Jesus—future eschatology (vv. 26-30); *fourth*, witnesses for the defence (vv. 31-40); and *fifth*, the defendant turned prosecutor (vv. 41-47).

¹³⁵² Elam (1980: 183; cf. Chatman, 1978: 173-81) states that, "Each exchange or monologue within the discourse, according to the 'followability' requirement, will be geared towards a clear 'topic' of discourse (or overall changes in which will be plainly signaled)".

¹³⁵³ Painter (1993: 224) states that, "In order to develop his position the evangelist has used the saying of Jesus in the text upon which the following discourse is based, at least 5:19-30 . . . Here only, and in 5:19, does Jesus use the aorist, indicative, middle ἀπεκρίνατο. Elsewhere he uses the passive ἀπεκρίθη. The reason for this could be the attention to the connection between the text (5:17) and the discourse beginning with 5:19". Cf. Carson, 1999: 100; Dodd, 1960: 328-32; Brown, 1966: 227-30; Köstenberger, 2004: 190-5; Barrett, 1978: 257-8, 59-62.

44).¹³⁵⁴ The closing paragraph of chapter 5 presents Jesus as a figure greater than Moses, which becomes the central theme in chap. 6 onwards.¹³⁵⁵ Culpepper (1983: 91) rightly states that, “Jesus himself speaks of his role as Son of Man (5:25-47) and attests his claims by citing witnesses (the Father, John the Baptist, the works, the scriptures, Moses). The dramatic power of the rest of the gospel is built around this conflict”.¹³⁵⁶ The dialogue in vv. 1-18 is presented seemingly as a foundational framework in order to tell about the latter christological proclamations in the monologue (vv. 19-47; cf. Brodie, 1993: 245-56). For a reader, it is conspicuous that John uses his dialogues and monologue(s) with a diplomatic intention. John’s technically oriented and diplomatically attuned literary upbringing is rare in form and style.

In John, a lethal antipathy toward Jesus appears early and consistently, and a claim to divinity comes through clearly. The divinity claims are at the root of the testimonies in 5:31-37, and those claims are built on the strong foundation of the five-slot dialogue (vv. 1-18; cf. Sloyan, 1988: 77-84; Neyrey, 2007: 101-5). In vv. 30-47, the fivefold testimony advances as if it were developed as a synagogue debate: God has testified on Jesus’ behalf, so also has John the Baptist, as well as, the works that Jesus is doing, and Scripture, and Moses who wrote about Jesus (cf. Brodie, 1993: 250-6).¹³⁵⁷ The fivefold testimony, here, can be considered as a defensive documentation for the believing community for dialoguing with the unbelieving.¹³⁵⁸ The five-slot dialogue and the fivefold testimony, thus, communicate well with the reading community. Barrett (1978: 257) says that, “In vv. 19-30 the main theme is solemnly, constantly, almost wearisomely, repeated. As v. 17 foreshadowed, there is complete unity of action between the Father and the Son, and complete dependence of the Son on the Father”.¹³⁵⁹ This unity of the Father and of the Son is delineated by the help of keywords. Stibbe (1993: 80) states that, “Various keywords reappear: works, life (eternal), sending, believing, the hour, truth, sight, glory, love, seeking. The most important thematic words relate to the trial motif. There is large cluster of words rooted in *κρίσις* in vv. 19-30 (cf. 22, 24, 27, 29, 30), and an equally large number rooted in *μαρτυρία* in vv. 31-47 (cf. 31, 32,

¹³⁵⁴ Painter (1993: 226) states that, “The discourse as a whole is in two main parts: *first*, the works of the Father and the Son, 5:17, 19-30 and *second*, the function of the witnesses, 5:31-47”. Cf. Carson, 1991: 259-66; Dodd, 1960: 328-32; Milne, 1993: 100-2; Painter, 1993: 235-41; Blomberg, 2001: 115-8; Brown, 1966: 227-30.

¹³⁵⁵ To keep the gospel’s geography neater, some have argued that chaps. 5 and 6 have been transposed, but this approach does not take into account what John simply assumes, namely major chronological as well as geographical gaps (e.g., 7:2; 10:22; 11:55). While such transposition is conceivable for pages in a codex, it is difficult to conceive such an accident for the earliest versions, on scrolls; and no manuscript attest the alleged transposition. Cf. Keener, 2003: 634; Beasley-Murray, 1987: xliii.

¹³⁵⁶ Stibbe (1993: 79) states that, “In 5:31-40, Jesus now brings in four witnesses for the defence, witnesses who will confirm his testimony”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 190-5; Dodd, 1960: 328-32; Carson, 1991: 259-66; Brown, 1966: 227-30; Blomberg, 2001: 115-8; Milne, 1993: 100-2; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 75-81; Moloney, 1998: 185-90.

¹³⁵⁷ Talbert (1992: 130) says that, “Scripture, like the Baptist, Jesus’ works, and the Father, bears witness to Jesus. Jesus’ testimony to himself (vv. 19-30) does not stand alone but is corroborated by multiple reliable and trustworthy witnesses”. Cf. Brown, 2009: 345; Carson, 1991: 259-66; Painter, 1993: 235-41; Köstenberger, 2004: 190-5.

¹³⁵⁸ Hays (1996: 153-4) says that, “The community’s spiritual union with Jesus is so profound that the experiences of the community need not be sharply distinguished from the events of Jesus’ life; the past and the present can be superimposed upon one another as a ‘two-level drama’, so that the story of Jesus becomes the story of the community and vice versa”.

¹³⁵⁹ See Carson, 1991: 247-9; Brown, 1966: 216-21; Köstenberger, 2004: 183-95; Moloney, 1998: 176-81.

33, 34, 36, 37, 39)". In sum, the action, dialogue, and monologue sequence of the ultimately reveals Jesus' relationship with the Father and vice versa.

7.4. Meso-Analysis

The above analysis of dialogues and their interconnection with the monologue enables us to see how micro-dialogues function within the episode.¹³⁶⁰ This further informs us about the sequence and the plot development of the story (cf. Hägerland, 2003: 309-22; Barry, 1991: 51).¹³⁶¹ The first slot has a *question-response-command* utterance format that leads to a foundation theme for the rest of the episode. The second slot has a *command-response-command* utterance sequence that develops as a consequence of the miraculous event (vv. 9-13).¹³⁶² The content of the second slot centres on a Sabbath-controversy, it motivates the reader to seek more knowledge about the performer of the miracle.¹³⁶⁴ In the third slot, the *affirmation-command-result* frame of the utterance unit works within an *action-implicit dialogue-subsequent* narratorial framework (vv. 14-15). The informative utterance of the fourth slot works within an *action-implicit dialogue-resultant action* framework (vv. 15-18).¹³⁶⁵ While the main content of the dialogue is the identity of the healer, just as in the third slot it persuades the reader to see the whole. While Jesus' healing on the Sabbath is the leading factor for the controversy in the third, and fourth slots, his controversial pronouncement to the Jews in the fifth slot (v. 16) moves the drama to progress (see Table 47). The implicit dialogue in the fifth slot is introduced to illustrate that the work of Jesus is in par with the work of the Father. It directs John's attention toward the source of Jesus' authority (see Diagram 33).

¹³⁶⁰ Dodd (1963: 316) says that, "As the Synoptic dialogues often lead up to a series of further saying, developing the same kindred themes, so in John a dialogue constantly introduces a discourse delivered by Jesus in monologue".

¹³⁶¹ Kitto (1956: v-vi; cf. Beacham, 1993: 114-5) says that, "The art of drama does not consist simply of language is only one—though the most important—of its means of saying things. Others, obviously, are the juxtaposition of situations and persons, the 'timing' of events, gestures, tone, visual effects, many other such things. Sedgewick (1948) discusses that irony is one of the important dramatic features. See Hitchcock, 1907: 266-7; Sedgewick, 1930: 292-305; Lee, 1954: 173-6; Flanagan, 1981: 264-70; Connick, 1948: 159-69.

¹³⁶² The dialogue between Jesus and the invalid in vv. 6-9a comes to a close by describing about the healed man. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 254; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Painter, 1993: 213-27; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 111; Carson, 1991: 243-4; Blomberg, 2001: 108-18; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74.

¹³⁶³ While the first slot begins with a *question*, the second slot ends with a *question*. While the first slot ends with a *command*, the second slot begins with a *command*. But in both cases a *response* is placed at the centre.

¹³⁶⁴ The joint efforts of both the interlocutors and the narrator help the story to maintain its quality of persuasion for the reader. Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Newman and Nida, 1980: 147-9; Painter, 1993: 213-27; Blomberg, 2001: 108-18; Carson, 1991: 244-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74; Barrett, 1978: 254-5.

¹³⁶⁵ The implicit nature of the dialogue here begins and ends with characterial actions (i.e., the action of Jesus in healing the man and the man's 'going away' to report the news; vv. 14a and 15). Cf. Carson, 1991: 245-6; Barrett, 1978: 255; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 112; Newman and Nida, 1980: 149-50; Blomberg, 2001: 108-18; Painter, 1993: 213-27.

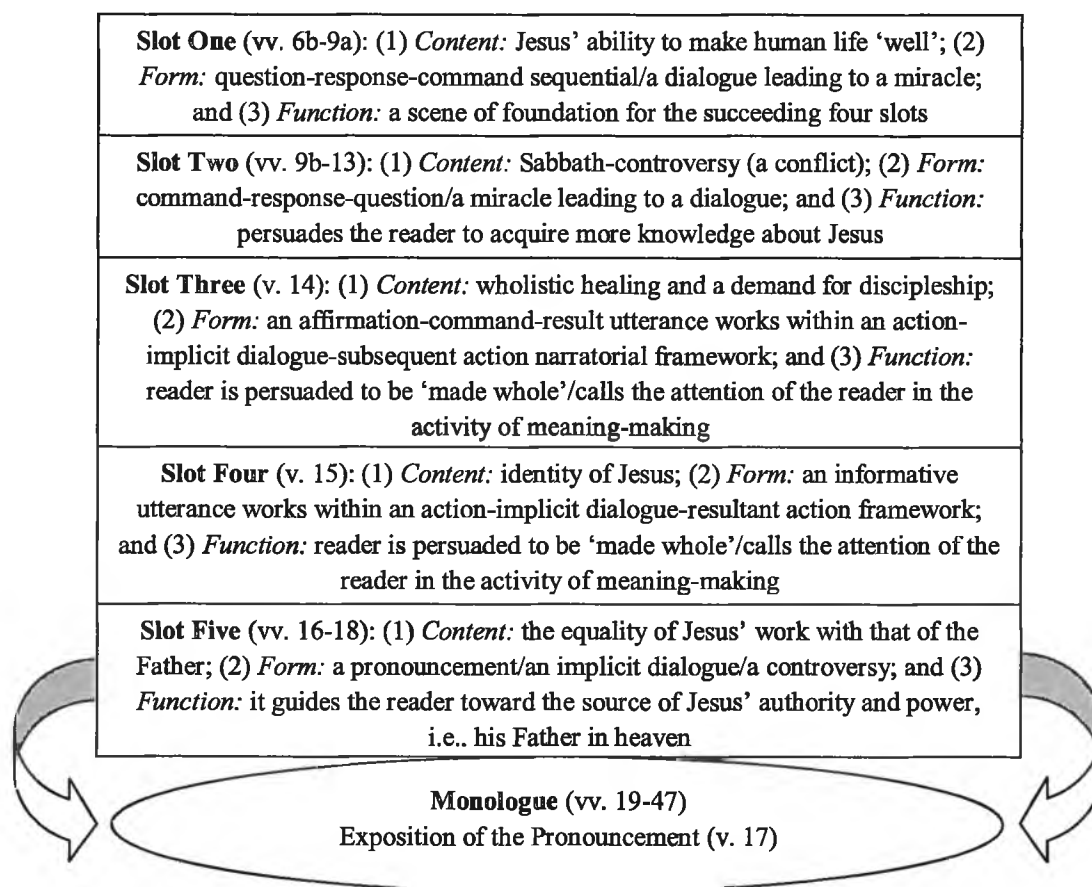


Diagram 33: Slot development within the episode

The episode is controversial in nature; but its structure is reader-friendly. The five-slot development of the dialogue (vv. 1-18) and the last slot's function as a catalyst for the monologue are dramatic (vv. 19-47). Witherington (1995: 134) opines that, "It appears that this text falls into a pattern we have already recognized: (1) an event (vv. 1-9b) is followed by (2) a dialogue (9b-18), which in turn is followed by (3) a discourse/commentary, the latter of which can be divided into two parts (vv. 19-30 and 31-47)".¹³⁶⁶ Thus the overall episode maintains an *action-controversy-monologue* format (see Diagram 33).¹³⁶⁷

In chap. 5, the narrator inaugurates a new series of dialogues after the 'Cana-to-Cana' episodes (i.e., chaps. 2-4; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 104; Resseguie, 2005: 127, 210).¹³⁶⁸ Bennema (2009: 40) says that, "With Jesus' return to Jerusalem in 5:1, the situation changes rapidly. From John 5 there is a

¹³⁶⁶ Also see Sloyan, 1988: 81-4; cf. Womack, 2011: 29, 36, 52-6; Quast, 1991/1996: 41-7.

¹³⁶⁷ The episode begins in the form of an action-oriented dialogue. The first slot of dialogue results into a miracle. The miracle leads the reader through a controversy (i.e., in the succeeding four slots, vv. 9b-18). The five-slot dialogue, finally, leads the reader toward a monologue (vv. 19-47). Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-81; Painter, 1993: 213-52; Carson, 1991: 243-67; Blomberg, 2001: 108-18; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Barrett, 1978: 254-70.

¹³⁶⁸ The growing opposition of the Jews against Jesus is more evident after chap. 5. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 254-70; Carson, 1991: 243-67; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Newman and Nida, 1980: 146-73; Painter, 1993: 213-52.

dramatic increase in the opposition, until the end of Jesus' ministry in John 12 and eventual death in John 18-19".¹³⁶⁹ In chap. 5, a dramatic protagonist-and-antagonist conflict begins to develop and the protagonist takes full control by turning the dialogue into a monologue (cf. 1993: 75-6; Culpepper, 1983: 137-8).¹³⁷⁰ As in the case of the previous episodes, the connection between the dialogues to the monologues is again obvious within the narrative framework (cf. 1:19-21).¹³⁷¹ The traits of the Jews reveal that they are an imprudent group, characterised by unbelief, hostility, opposition, strategies for persecution, and plans to kill the saviour they claim. The healed man's identity is complex, showing multiple traits including obedience, defiance, cooperation, ignorance, ambiguity, unresponsiveness, and disloyalty (cf. 1991/1996: 41-7).¹³⁷² The portrait of Jesus as a dialogic, vibrant and miraculous figure captures the attention of the reader (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 75-6). The behavioural patterns of the character John's talent for representing their inward natures to his community, presenting the story as a 'performative act' (cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67).¹³⁷³

Even though the invalid's ostracised situation is one of the important emphases of the narrative, the plot structure focuses more on the conflict between Jesus and the Jews.¹³⁷⁴ The invalid functions as a foil character for the advancement of the conflict. Culpepper (1983: 91; cf. Stibbe and Broek, 1992: 36) says that, "John 5 brings a fresh development. The conflict over Jesus' identity intensifies sharply. The Jews become important for the first time, and the basic conflict is explained. The issue is the locus of revelation—Jesus or the Law? Those who claim the absolute authority of Torah claim that Jesus has violated the Sabbath and committed blasphemy".¹³⁷⁵ The narrative has the qualities of readability, deep impressions, powerful influence, and both backward and forward looking tendencies.¹³⁷⁶ Johannine dialogic

¹³⁶⁹ Bennema (2009: 39) says, "prior to John 5, Jesus faces little opposition from The only conflict between Jesus and the Jews is mentioned in 2:13-22, where 'the Jews' are offended by what Jesus did in, and said about, the temple".

¹³⁷⁰ The episode in chap. 5 is one of the catalysts for unfolding the dialogues between Jesus and the Jews later in the Gospel.

¹³⁷¹ The *metanarratorial* and *metalinguistic* patterns of the story within the extended gospel reveal the character of the Jews, their language, mannerisms, position in the story, the author's perspectives about them, and the characters perceiving themselves.

¹³⁷² Bennema (2009: 106-7; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 329) says that, "The character of the invalid is more complicated and ambiguous than most scholars have recognized. There is, however, one tool left to assist us in understanding him: the response of the Jews. As most scholars have recognised, John wants his readers to compare the response of the invalid in John 5 with that of the man born blind in John 9". Cf. Painter, 1993: 213-52; Carson, 1991: 243-67; and Nida, 1980: 146-73; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-81; Barrett, 1978: 254.

¹³⁷³ The author's masterplan for recreating the narrative by the help of active voice utterance units in order to present the story in its community context, structural framework (of dialogues intertwined with narratorials and monologues), narrative style, and of telling the story innovatively, and the story's performative function within the immediate and larger context are its resultant features.

¹³⁷⁴ For more details about the Johannine Jews, refer to Von Wahlde, 33-60. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-81; Painter, 1993: 213-52; Carson, 1991: 243-67; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 111-24; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80.

¹³⁷⁵ According to Brown, "The Gospel of John emerged from and reflects the struggles of a mixed (hybrid) community of Jews, Gentiles and Samaritans who were striving to accommodate to their theological positions". See Painter, 1993: 213-52; Blomberg, 2001: 108-18; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Koester, Brown, and Martyn, 1991: 55.

¹³⁷⁶ Blount (1995: viii) seems right when he says that, "Texts do not have 'meaning'. Instead, they have potential'. Interpreters access this potential interpersonally, that is, contextually. The context of the interpreter is what gives the text its meaning".

reproductions of constant interactions, encounters, conflicts, and ‘accommodative and disruptive’ tendencies within the Johannine community.¹³⁷⁷ The Johannine community was a marginal group expelled from the synagogue (cf. 16:2) and had to deal with the issues of (1) their relationship to Judaism, (2) questions of self-identity, (3) minority status, and (4) oppression.¹³⁷⁸ The narrative in chap. 5 is recounted sequentially between chaps. 4 and 6 through the employment of the expression *μετὰ ταῦτα* (5:1 and 6:1).¹³⁷⁹ After relaying a Samaritan narrative (4:1-42) and a Galilean narrative (4:43-54), the chronicler directs the attention of the reader to a Judean incident (5:1-47).¹³⁸⁰ According to Bennema (2009: 100), “leaving the royal official and the section ‘from Cana to Cana’ (John 2-4) behind, we enter another major section, John 5-12, where Jesus faces increasing opposition from the religious leaders in Judaea and Jerusalem”.¹³⁸¹ As the first episode in the new series of events, 5:1-47 begins to describe the account by way of conflict. John maintains sequence among the episodes by using narratorial tactics like *repetitive usages* (i.e., “take up your mat and walk”, vv. 8, 11, and 12; and “made well”, vv. 6b, 11a, 14a, 15) in order to maintain alignment among the dialogic slots.¹³⁸²

him/her towards particular slices of that meaning potential. Other interpreters who see another ‘meaning’ in the text need not, therefore, necessarily be in error regarding their conclusions”. While the characters of the story involve in dialogue, the reader is involving in a dialogue with the narrator in order to construct meaning at another level. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 254-70; Blomberg, 2001: 108-18; Painter, 1993: 213-52; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80.

¹³⁷⁷ ‘Accommodation’ simply means adopting (appropriation) of certain dominant cultural and religious ideas (here by John) to a certain extent. ‘Disruption’ means to confront and abrogate those ideas.

¹³⁷⁸ For more details about the production of the Johannine community, refer to Conway, 2002: 479-95. Cf. Kysar, 1992: 912-31; Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Carson, 1991: 243-67; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 111-24; Blomberg, 2001: 108-18; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 74-81; Painter, 1993: 213-52; Barrett, 1978: 254-70.

¹³⁷⁹ Chaps. 5 and 6, as Guthrie (1961, rev. 1990: 331) says that, “are thought to be better if transposed, as in chaps. 4 and 6 Jesus is in Galilee, whereas in chap. 5 he is in Jerusalem”. Talbert (1992: 121) says that, “John 5 is a large thought unit whose beginning is signalled by 5:1 (“After this . . . Jesus went up”) and whose ending is indicated by 6:1 (“After this Jesus went away”). Its organisation is similar to that already seen in John 2:13-3:21 (symbolic act of Jesus, followed by dialogue, followed by monologue)”.

¹³⁸⁰ Stibbe (1993: 73) states that, “The circle is not perfect, because some sort of journey towards Jerusalem is implied in 5:1 and away from Jerusalem in 10:40-42”. Stibbe (1993: 73) further says that, “In section 1, Jesus travels in a circular movement from Cana through Jerusalem and back to Cana (2:1-4:54). Now in section 2, Jesus undertakes a circular journey from Jerusalem, through Galilee, back to Jerusalem. This itinerary is established through the narrative settings specified by the narrator”. The narrator’s role is obvious in vv. 1-6a, 9, 13, 15-16, and 18. He uses formulas in order to quote the characters in vv. 6b, 7a, 8a, 10a, 11a, 12a, 14a, 17a, and 19a. Usual formulaic verbs like λέγει (v. 6b, 8a), ἀπεκρίθη (v. 7a, 11a; also ἀπεκρίνατο, vv. 17 and 19), ἔλεγον (v. 10a; also ἔλεγεν, v. 19), ἠρώτησαν (v. 12a), εἶπεν (v. 14a), and ἀνήγγειλεν (v. 15a) reappear in the episode. The narrator makes a chain of *Samaritan, Galilean, Judean* events, and then proceeds with another Galilean narrative (6:1-15).

¹³⁸¹ According to Keener (2003: 630), “A geographical *inclusio* mentioning Galilee explicitly brackets the entire unit (4:43, 54)”. Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 73-80; Dodd, 1960: 319-32; Barrett, 1978: 249-70; Dodd, 1963: 174-80.

¹³⁸² The word ‘dualism’ has been variously used in the history of theology and philosophy, but the basic conception is that of a distinction between two principles as independent of one another and in some instances opposed to one another. See Ladd, 1975: 232-233. Some of the literary devices used in the larger framework of the episode are: *synonymous parallelism* (vv. 17; cf. 21); and *Amen, Amen statements* (v. 19; cf. 24, and 25). The monologue section (i.e., vv. 19-47) has narratorial devices such as *already . . . not yet eschatology* (already, v. 24/ already . . . not yet, v. 25); *dualism* (i.e., “death and life”; v. 24); *antithetical parallelism* (v. 29); *proverbial statement* (v. 31); and *intertextual references* (vv. 45-47). The miracle-disputation-monologue sequence of the episode shows the narratorial incorporation of multiple literary genres. Cf. Bailey and Vander Broek, 1992: 175.

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
Slot # 1 (5:1-9)	Content: Jesus' ability to make human life "well" // Form: <i>Question-response-command</i> sequential // Function: It persuades the reader to be made well. It functions as a scene of foundation for the successive slots.	A <i>question-response-command</i> dialogue is sign-oriented. The dialogue is the time of miracle.
Slot # 2 (5:10-13)	Content: A controversy based on a healing on a Sabbath day // Form: <i>Command-response-question</i> sequential // Function: It persuades the reader to acquire more knowledge about Jesus	A <i>command-response-question</i> dialogue as a consequence of a miracle. The miracle/action of slot leads to a controversy
Slot # 3 (5:14)	Content: wholistic healing (i.e., both physical and 'forgiveness of sin') and a demand for discipleship of the man // Form: an <i>affirmation-command-resultant</i> utterance works within an <i>action-implicit dialogue-subsequent action</i> narratorial framework // Function: reader is persuaded to be 'made whole'/calls the attention of the reader in the activity of meaning-making	An implicit dialogue within the narratorial framework
Slot # 4 (5:15)	Content: Identity of Jesus // Form: An informative utterance works within an <i>action-implicit dialogue-resultant action</i> framework // Function: The reader is persuaded to be 'made whole'/calls the attention of the reader in meaning-making	An implicit dialogue within the narratorial framework
Slot # 5 (5:16-18)	Content: The equality of Jesus' work with that of the Father // Form: An implicit dialogue/a controversy // Function: It guides the reader toward the source of Jesus' authority and power, i.e., his Father in heaven	An implicit dialogue that leads monologue

Table 47: The summary of the dialogue of the seventh episode

Episode Eight

From Sign-Centered Dialogues¹³⁸³ to Question- and-Answer Dialogues (6:1-71)

8.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

John chap. 6 begins with the customary Johannine expression *μετὰ ταῦτα* (cf. 5:1; 7:1) and is filled with dramatic movements and resultant dialogues (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-210; Talbert, 1992: 131).¹³⁸⁴ According to Chatman (1978: 138-9), “The setting ‘sets the character off’ in the usual figurative sense of the expression; it is the place and collection of objects ‘against which’ his actions and passions appropriately emerge”. As Chatman says, in John 6 the actions and passions of the characters emerge on the basis of the settings of the story. The entire story can be divided into three slots on the basis of the change of settings.¹³⁸⁵ The first slot (i.e., the feeding of the five

¹³⁸³ Generally, discourse is understood as a speech, a dialogue, a chat: it is one of the many tools of communication. Perhaps when we talk of the ‘discourses’ in John it is fitting to look at it as ‘a unit of language greater than a sentence’. John’s discourses have a certain theological thrust; the idea of ‘greater than a sentence’ becomes an important character. This linguistic character (of discourse) can be witnessed as different from the synoptics and highlight the literal expertise of the Johannine writer.

¹³⁸⁴ Dodd (1960: 333) states that, “The introductory sentences, 6:1-3, bring together motives which belong to the common substance of the Gospel tradition: a journey across the Sea of Galilee, the pressure of the crowd, the repute of Jesus as a healer, his withdrawal to τὸ ὄρος with his disciples”. Chapter six records two signs, the feeding of the multitude (vv. 1-15), and the walking on the lake, 16-21; a narratorial, connected with a search for Jesus, 22-24; a larger dialogical discourse on a demand for a sign from heaven and the Bread of Life, 25-59; and finally two little dialogues, one with defecting disciples, 60-65; and the other with the Twelve, 66-71. See 3:22; 5:1, 14; 6:1; 7:1; 13:7; 19:38; 21:1, in all eight times. The slightly more specific *μετὰ τοῦτο* is used four times in 2:12; 11:7, 11; 19:28. Painter (1993: 253) states that, “John 6 was intended as a self-contained unit is clearly signalled by the evangelist, who has commenced chapters 5, 6, and 7 with *μετὰ ταῦτα*, a formula that marks a new beginning”. Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 175; Carson, 1991: 267.

¹³⁸⁵ Many modern scholars have suggested that the present location of chap. 6 creates geographical difficulties that can only be resolved by rearranging chaps. 4-7. If 6:1-71 is placed immediately after 4:43-54 Jesus’ presence in Galilee is explained. The following events of chaps. 5, 7, 9, and 10 all take place in Jerusalem. This suggestion, which has no support from textual traditions, focuses too strongly on geography. Moloney says that, “The issue that determines the order of events in John 5-10 is the celebration of the feasts of ‘the Jews’ (cf. 5:1)”. Moloney (1998: 193) further describes that, “the first introductory section describes the presence of Jesus (v. 1), the disciples (v. 3), and a multitude (v. 2) on the mountain (v. 3) and on the other side of the Sea of Galilee (v. 1) and the feast of ‘the Jews’, the Passover, approaches”. Köstenberger (2004: 196) opines that, “The pattern of narration of chap. 6 is similar to chap. 5: Jesus’ sign is followed by an extended discourse elaborating on the significance of the event (with the walking on the water incident serving as an interlude). The scene is the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee; the time is spring, shortly before the Jewish Passover”. Blomberg (2001: 119) says that, “Verse 4 is John’s unique addition and explains his inclusion of an event that otherwise does not fit his pattern in these chapters of focusing on Jesus in Judea: Passover typology is present even if Jesus is not attending the festival at this moment”. The three slots can be outlined as follows: vv. 1-15, 16-21, and 22-71. Talbert (1992: 131) has a different division: *first*, vv. 1-26, held together by an inclusion (the other side of the sea, vv. 1, 25); *second*, vv. 27-59, held together by an inclusion (Capernaum, vv. 24, 59); and (3) vv. 60-71. Keener (2003: 1: 663-99), on the other hand, divides the section into four: *first*, Jesus feeds a Multitude (6:1-15);

thousand, vv. 1-15) takes place on the other side (πέραν) of the sea of Galilee (cf. Beutler 119-22).¹³⁸⁶ Jesus the protagonist of the story goes (ἀπῆλθεν) to the other side of the sea and crowd follows (ἠκολούθει) him because they saw signs (τὰ σημεῖα) that he was doing for (vv. 1-2a; cf. Carson, 1991: 267-8).¹³⁸⁷ The narrator of the episode reports about his going to the mountain (ἀνῆλθεν . . . τὸ ὄρος)¹³⁸⁸ and sitting down with his disciples (v. 3; ἐκάθισεν). This happens during the approaching Passover festival season (ἤν δὲ ἐγγύς τὸ πάσχα). The *topographical* (i.e., the mountain and the sea) and *religious* (i.e., approaching Passover) setting of the story is well established at the outset of the narrative (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 113-4; Chatman, 1978: 138-45).¹³⁸⁹ The dialogue begins as Jesus looked up and saw (ἐπὶ ὁφθαλμοῦς καὶ θεασάμενος) a large crowd coming (ἔρχεται) toward him (see Table 48). These details, as Chatman (1978: 141) says, “contribute to the mood of the narrative”. The interlocutors of the first slot are Jesus, Philip and Andrew. The slot ends in v. 15 as the narrator describes Jesus’ realisation that the crowd is about to come, take him by force and make him king. This resulted in Jesus’ withdrawal to the mountains by himself.

The second slot (vv. 16-21) begins as the narrator talks about the evening (ὀψία) event and the noticeable absence of Jesus.¹³⁹¹ The narrator reports that the disciples went down to the sea (πρὸς τὴν θάλασσαν), got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. The descriptions of the overshadowing darkness (σκοτία), the rough sea and the strong wind (θάλασσα ἀνέμου πνέοντος διεγείρετο) sharpen the acuteness of the setting (cf. Beutler, 1997: 119; Carson, 1991: 273-6). The disciples row about three or four miles, their witness of Jesus walking on the sea, and the succeeding terror are brought to the fascinated attention of the reader. The second slot (vv. 16-21) is mostly structured in the form of a narrative: *first*, a terrific scene of ὀψία, θάλασσαν, πέραν τῆς θαλάσσης, σκοτία, ἣ τε θάλασσα ἀνέμου μεγάλου πνέοντος διεγείρετο; *second*, περιπατοῦντα ἐπὶ τῆς θαλάσσης, and ἐφοβήθησαν as the background (vv. 16-19); *third*, the

second, Theophany on the Waters (6:16-21); *third*, The Manna Discourse (6:22-58); and *fourth*, Resurrection (6:59-71). Moloney (1998: 193) is of the opinion that, “Matching 5:1, the expression μετὰ τὴν ἑορτήν introduces a new place (v. 1: the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias), a new set of characters (v. 3: the disciples), and a change of time (v. 4: the Passover)”. Cf. Brown, 1966: 232; Ridderbos, 1967: 80-4; Moloney, 1998: 197-201.

¹³⁸⁶ The story of feeding the five thousand begins as Jesus again leaves (ἀπῆλθεν) Judea for Galilee for a third time.

¹³⁸⁷ Jesus withdraws from his conflict in Jerusalem (chap. 5) and begins another kind of reaction in Galilee. Keener (2003: 1: 664) says that, “The ‘other side’ of the lake (6:1) contrasts with Jesus’ usual Galilean location on the west side of the lake (e.g., 2:1, 12; 4:45-46), though the exact location is uncertain”.

¹³⁸⁸ Moloney (1998: 193) says, “the use of the definite article ‘the mountain’ (ἐἰς τὸ ὄρος) may be a first hint that Jesus is adopting a position parallel to Moses who received the Law on a mountain (cf. Exo 19:20; 14:1-2)”.

¹³⁸⁹ Bultmann (1971: 211) considered it as a *geographical setting*.

¹³⁹⁰ The descriptions about the great deal of grass (ἦν χόρτος πολὺς) and a crowd of five thousand in all (πάντες ὡς πεντακισχίλιοι) add more details to the narrative (cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 180-1; Carson, 1991: 273-6). Chatman (1978: 139) says, “These hordes, though human, are obviously not characters; they are parts of the setting . . .” This is true when we talk about the 5000 in all people in the background of the story here.

¹³⁹¹ Beutler (1997: 119) says that, “Important . . . is the chronological reference in v. 16. It locates the following event according to absolute chronology: it is ‘at nightfall’. That ‘darkness had fallen’ in v. 17 does not add anything particular to this setting. There are no more temporal references until v. 22”.

talk to the petrified disciples (v. 20); and *third*, the unexpected method of reaching shore (v. 21; cf. Carson, 1991: 273-6). The disciples begin their journey at one end of the sea and end up on the other end; but the event of Jesus' walk coupled with his verbal interaction occurs on the sea itself. The implied dialogic¹³⁹² tendency of the narrative can be discerned from the reactions of the characters: *first*, the disciples' struggles in the boat; *second*, their frightened reaction to seeing someone walking on the water; *third*, their desire to have Jesus in the boat; and *fourth*, after their surprising reach to the shore. All these abbreviating tendencies prompt the reader to think about the possibilities of dialogues (see Table 48). Moreover, all the above details well describe the *topographical setting* of the story (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87, 97-8).

The development of the third slot is based on the three sub-slots (cf. vv. 22-59, 60-65, and 66-71; see Carson, 1991: 276-304). The first sub-slot (vv. 22-59) is introduced by way of a detailed narratorial note which begins with the expression 'the next day' (Τῇ ἐπαύριον/vv. 22-25a). While Jesus' absence is noticed at the beginning of the second slot, here the absence of both Jesus and his disciples is the focus. The narrator describes the absence of Jesus and the disciples, the crowd's movement from the mountain, the coming of the boats from Tiberias, the crowd's journey by the boat to Capernaum looking for Jesus, and their dialogue with Jesus on the opposite side of the sea. The whole dialogue of the first sub-slot, as the narrator reports, takes place in the synagogue at Capernaum (v. 59; cf. Beutler, 1997: 120-1; Carson, 1991: 299-300). The second sub-slot seemingly develops in the same setting; but the interlocutors are Jesus and his larger group of disciples (vv. 60-65).¹³⁹³ In the third sub-slot, the narrator invites the attention of the reader toward a dialogue between Jesus and the Twelve (vv. 66-71; see Table 48). In short, the *topographical* (i.e., Sea of Galilee) and *architectural* (i.e., the Synagogue) setting of the third slot provides dramatic effect to the dialogues (cf. Chatman, 1978: 138-45; see Table 48).

Slots	Episode 8: John 6:1-71(See the notes on each slots)
Slot # 1 ¹³⁹⁴	<p><i>Jesus</i> (to Philip): Πόθεν ἀγοράσωμεν ἄρτους ἵνα φάγωσιν οὗτοι;</p> <p><i>Philip</i>: Διακοσίων δηναρίων ἄρτοι οὐκ ἀρκοῦσιν αὐτοῖς ἵνα ἕκαστος βραχύ [τι] λάβῃ</p> <p><i>Andrew</i>: Ὡς ἐστὶν παιδᾶριον ὧδε ὃς ἔχει πέντε ἄρτους κριθίνους καὶ δύο ὀψάρια· ἀλλὰ ταῦτα τί ἐστὶν εἰς τοσούτους;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ποιήσατε τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀναπεσεῖν</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Συναγάγετε τὰ περισσεύσαντα κλάσματα, ἵνα μὴ τι ἀπόληται</p> <p><i>People</i>: Οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ προφήτης ὁ ἐρχόμενος εἰς τὸν κόσμον</p>

¹³⁹² An 'implied dialogue' is a derivation of the larger abbreviated dialogues. Here the author leaves to the readers to understand about the possibilities of dialogues happened during a course of time.

¹³⁹³ Beutler (1997: 119) says that, "We come next to temporal references with the two formulas of introduction in vv. 60 and 66. With the concluding remark in v. 59, the discourse on the Bread of Life has come to an end. The following participle, connecting with οὖν refers to the discourse and reports the reaction of many of the listeners. In a similar way in v. 66 we hear about a new reaction from the disciples of Jesus to the words of Jesus caused by the previous critical reaction".

¹³⁹⁴ Slot # 1 is mostly composed out of narratives and utterance units are scattered all through the slot. Readers can also notice implicit dialogical tendencies within the slot.

Slot # 2 ¹³⁹⁵	<i>Jesus</i> : Ἐγώ εἰμι, μὴ φοβεῖσθε
Slot # 3 ¹³⁹⁶	<p><u>Sub-Slot # 3.1</u></p> <p><i>Crowd</i>: Ῥαββί, πότε ὧδε γέγονας;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ζητεῖτέ με οὐχ ὅτι εἶδετε σημεῖα, ἀλλ' ὅτι ἐφάγετε ἐκ ἄρτων καὶ ἐχορτάσθητε. ἐργάζεσθε μὴ τὴν βρώσιν τὴν ἀπολλυμένην ἀλλὰ τὴν βρώσιν μένουσαν εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον, ἣν ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ὑμῖν δώσει· τοῦτον γὰρ ὁ πατὴρ ἐσφράγισεν ὁ θεός.</p> <p><i>Crowd</i>: Τί ποιῶμεν ἵνα ἐργαζώμεθα τὰ ἔργα τοῦ θεοῦ;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Τοῦτό ἐστιν τὸ ἔργον τοῦ θεοῦ, ἵνα πιστεύητε εἰς ὃν ἀπέστειλεν ἐκεῖνος</p> <p><i>Crowd</i>: Τί οὖν ποιεῖς σὺ σημεῖον, ἵνα ἴδωμεν καὶ πιστεῦσωμέν σοι; τί ἐργάζῃ; οἱ τῶν ἡμῶν τὸ μάννα ἔφαγον ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, καθὼς ἐστιν γεγραμμένον, Ἔδωκεν ὁ θεὸς αὐτοῖς φαγεῖν</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, οὐ Μωϋσῆς δέδωκεν ὑμῖν τὸν ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, πατὴρ μου δίδωσιν ὑμῖν τὸν ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ τὸν ἀληθινόν· ὁ γὰρ ἄρτος τοῦ ἐστιν ὁ καταβαίνων ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καὶ ζωὴν διδοὺς τῷ κόσμῳ</p> <p><i>Crowd</i>: Κύριε, πάντοτε δὸς ἡμῖν τὸν ἄρτον τοῦτον</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἐγώ εἰμι ὁ ἄρτος τῆς ζωῆς· ὁ ἐρχόμενος πρὸς ἐμὲ οὐ πεινάσῃ, καὶ ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ μὴ διψήσῃ πώποτε . . . τοῦτο γὰρ ἐστιν τὸ θέλημα τοῦ πατρὸς μου, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ θεωρῶν τὸν υἱὸν καὶ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον, ἀναστήσῃ αὐτὸν ἐγὼ [ἐν] τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ</p> <p><i>Jesus' saying is quoted here</i>: Ἐγώ εἰμι ὁ ἄρτος ὁ καταβάς ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ (v. 41)</p> <p><i>Crowd</i>: Οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν Ἰησοῦς ὁ υἱὸς Ἰωσήφ, οὗ ἡμεῖς οἶδαμεν τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὴν μητέρα; πῶς νῦν λέγει ὅτι Ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καταβέβηκα;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Μὴ γογγύζετε μετ' ἀλλήλων. οὐδεὶς δύναται ἔλθειν πρὸς με ἢ ὁ πατὴρ ὁ με ἐκύσῃ αὐτόν, κἀγὼ ἀναστήσω αὐτόν ἐν τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ . . . ἐγώ εἰμι ὁ ἄρτος ὁ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καταβάς· ἂν τις φάγῃ ἐκ τούτου τοῦ ἄρτου ζήσῃ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, καὶ ἄρτος δὲ ὃν ἐγὼ δώσω ἡ σὰρξ μου ἐστὶν ὑπὲρ τῆς τοῦ κόσμου ζωῆς</p> <p><i>Crowd</i>: Πῶς δύναται οὗτος ἡμῖν δοῦναι τὴν σάρκα [αὐτοῦ] φαγεῖν;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἂν μὴ φάγῃ τὴν σάρκα τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου καὶ αὐτοῦ τὸ αἷμα, οὐκ ἔχετε ζωὴν ἐν ἑαυτοῖς . . . οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ ἄρτος ὁ ἐξ οὐρανοῦ κατὰ καθὼς ἔφαγον οἱ πατέρες καὶ ἀπέθανον· ὁ τρώγων τοῦτον τὸν ἄρτον ζήσῃ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα</p> <p><u>Sub-Slot # 3.2</u></p> <p><i>Disciples</i>: Σκληρός ἐστιν ὁ λόγος οὗτος· τίς δύναται αὐτοῦ ἀκοῦειν;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Τοῦτο ὑμᾶς σκανδαλίζει; ἂν οὖν θεωρῇτε τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἀναβαίνον ἢ τὸ πρότερον; τὸ πνεῦμά ἐστιν τὸ ζωοποιῶν, ἡ σὰρξ οὐκ ὠφελεῖ οὐδέν· τὰ ῥήματα λελάληκα ὑμῖν πνεῦμά ἐστιν καὶ ζωὴ ἐστίν. ἀλλ' εἰσὶν ἐξ ὑμῶν τινες οἱ οὐ πιστεύοντες</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Διὰ τοῦτο εἶρηκα ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐδεὶς δύναται ἔλθειν πρὸς με ἢ ἡ δεδομένο ἐκ τοῦ πατρὸς</p> <p><u>Sub-Slot # 3.3</u></p> <p><i>Jesus</i> (to the twelve): Μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς θέλετε ὑπάγειν;</p> <p><i>Simon Peter</i>: Κύριε, πρὸς τίνα ἀπελευσόμεθα; ῥήματα ζωῆς αἰωνίου ἔχεις, καὶ ἡμεῖς πεπιστεύκαμεν καὶ ἐγνώκαμεν ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ ἅγιος τοῦ θεοῦ</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Οὐκ ἐγὼ ὑμᾶς τοὺς δώδεκα ἐξελεξάμην; καὶ ἐξ ὑμῶν εἷς διάβολός ἐστιν</p>

Table 48: The dialogue text of 6:1-71

¹³⁹⁵ Slot # 2 has only one active voice statement. But, as in the case of the first slot, readers can notice dialogical tendencies within the slot.

¹³⁹⁶ Slot # 3 is mostly composed out of back and forth dialogue between Jesus and his interlocutors at the first, between Jesus and the Jews; second, Jesus and the disciples; and third, Jesus and the Twelve.

8.2. Micro-Analysis

8.2.1. Slot One (6:1-15)

The content of the first slot develops in the following way. The dialogue begins at v. 5b with Jesus questioning his disciples, i.e., “where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” (πόθεν ἀγοράσωμεν ἄρτους ἵνα φάγωσιν οὗτοι;).¹³⁹⁷ The narrator indicates that Jesus’ question is not merely in search of their ‘answer’, but to ‘test’ (Gk. πειράζων) them (cf. Wallace, 1996: 586; Talbert, 1992: 132).¹³⁹⁸ The expression αὐτὸς γὰρ ᾔδει τί ἔμελλεν ποιεῖν marks Jesus’ preconception about the forthcoming miracle. The construction ἔμελλεν ποιεῖν is an attempt by the narrator to delineate the determination of the protagonist to fulfill a task. While the protagonist utters the dramatic statement, the narrator adds flavour through his narratorial statements (see vv. 5b-6; cf. Windisch, 1993: 41).¹³⁹⁹ Painter (1993: 253) observes as follows:

In the feeding story (6:1-15) there is a dialogue between Jesus and his disciples. Three sayings of Jesus to the disciples are introduced (6:5, 10, 12) and two sayings of the disciples to Jesus (6:7, 8). Jesus initiated the dialogue to test Philip, who fails the test. But Andrew, who is again introduced as the brother of Simon Peter (6:8 and see 1:40) to remind the reader of the initial quest of Andrew, shows a glimmer of comprehension. Those (οἱ ἄνθρωποι) who saw the sign also make a confession *about* Jesus.

The responses of Philip and Andrew (vv. 7 and 9) fill the vacuum that was created after Jesus’ testing question (v. 5b). Two ideologies are at conflict here, divine and human (cf. Smith, 1999: 147). The response of Philip in v. 7 (i.e., Διακοσίων δηναρίων ἄρτοι οὐκ ἀρκοῦσιν αὐτοῖς ἵνα ἕκαστος βραχύ [τι] λάβῃ) indicates of the limits of human perception over against the perspective of Jesus (also see 3:3, 6; 9:40-41; cf. Talbert, 1992: 132).¹⁴⁰⁰ Andrew’s introduction of the παιδάριον and the boy’s πέντε ἄρτους κριθίνους καὶ δύο ὀψάρια indicate human limitation before divine power and resources (v. 9).¹⁴⁰¹ While Andrew’s question ἀλλὰ ταῦτα τί ἐστὶν εἰς

¹³⁹⁷ Dodd (1960: 333-4) observes that, “With verse 5 the narrative of the Feeding of the Multitude properly begins. It is told with little substantial variation from the synoptic versions, either in the dialogue or in the action, though with no great degree of similarity”. Blomberg (2001: 118-9) says that, “Only isolated words appear the same in the Greek of John *vis-à-vis* the Synoptics and then seldom in identical inflectional forms”.

¹³⁹⁸ Bernard (1929: 1: 175) comments that, “John thinks it necessary to explain *why* Jesus asked Philip where bread could be brought, because he hesitates to represent Him as asking a question which would suggest His ignorance of the answer. But the true humanity of Jesus is not realized, if it is assumed that He never asked questions about the simple matters of every day”. Cf. Dodd, 1963: 199-206; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20; Painter, 1993: 253-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 88-9; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 178-9; Carson, 1991: 267-73.

¹³⁹⁹ Moloney (1998: 199) says that, “This aside (i.e., ‘for he himself knew what he would do’) is a key to the interpretation of the miracle story and the subsequent discourse. In typically Johannine fashion Jesus ‘knew’ (ᾔδει), and is thus in control of everything that is happening. The verb is the pluperfect form of *oida* (‘to know’), and has an imperfect meaning: Jesus’ knowing is ongoing”. Cf. Painter, 1993: 253-9; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Carson, 1991: 267-73; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 88-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 178-9; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 125-7; Dodd, 1960: 333-5; Dodd, 1963: 199-206.

¹⁴⁰⁰ Wallace (1996: 122) says about the expression διακοσίων δηναρίων as follows: “English idiom would render this ‘two hundred denarii worth of bread’. This is an unusual instance of the gen. of price related to the noun (cf. also Rev 6:6)”.

¹⁴⁰¹ Carson (1991: 269) says that, “Only John specifies Philip (v. 5) and Andrew (v. 8); the synoptics speak rather vaguely of ‘the disciples’. Many have taken this as a sign of lateness, a piece of over-specification added by an author

τοσούτους suggests a complete impossibility (v. 9b), Jesus' response ποιήσατε τοὺς ἀνέκτα ἀναπεσεῖν (v. 10a) broaches an imperative of suspense (cf. Talbert, 1992: 132; Smith, 1999: 132). Jesus' command to the disciples in v. 10a and the subsequent initiative of the disciples in v. 11 guide the reader to conjecture further about a dialogue. The slot develops as Jesus shows his concern (v. 5b), Philip opines from a human point of view (v. 7b), Andrew adds a possible solution (v. 9; cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 665), and Jesus initiates revelation through another sign (v. 11; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 213; see Table 49).

John 6:1-15	Overview
<p>v.1: Μετὰ ταῦτα ἀπῆλθεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς πέραν τῆς θαλάσσης τῆς Γαλιλαίας τῆς Τιβεριάδος.</p> <p>v.2: ἠκολούθει δὲ αὐτῷ ὄχλος πολὺς, ὅτι ἐθεώρουν τὰ σημεῖα ἃ ἐποίει ἐπὶ τῶν ἁσθενούντων.</p> <p>v.3: ἀνῆλθεν δὲ εἰς τὸ ὄρος Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἐκεῖ ἐκάθητο μετὰ τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ.</p> <p>v.4: ἦν δὲ ἐγγὺς τὸ πάσχα, ἡ ἑορτὴ τῶν Ἰουδαίων.</p> <p>v.5: ἐπάρas οὖν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ θεασάμενος ὅτι πολλὸς ὄχλος ἔρχεται πρὸς αὐτὸν λέγει πρὸς Φίλιππον, Πόθεν ἀγοράσωμεν ἄρτους ἵνα φάγωσιν οὗτοι;</p> <p>v.6: τοῦτο δὲ ἔλεγεν πειράζων αὐτόν· αὐτὸς γὰρ ᾔδει τί ἐμελλεν ποιεῖν.</p> <p>v.7: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ [ὁ] Φίλιππος, Διακοσίων δηναρίων ἄρτοι οὐκ ἀρκοῦσιν αὐτοῖς ἵνα ἕκαστος βραχύ [τι] λάβῃ.</p> <p>v.8: λέγει αὐτῷ εἰς ἕκ τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ, Ἀνδρέας ὁ ἀδελφὸς Σίμωνος Πέτρου,</p> <p>v.9: Ἔστιν παιδάριον ὧδε ὃς ἔχει πέντε ἄρτους κριθίνους καὶ δύο ὀψάρια· ἀλλὰ ταῦτα τί ἐστὶν εἰς τοσούτους;</p> <p>v.10: εἶπεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ποιήσατε τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀναπεσεῖν. ἦν δὲ χόρτος πολὺς ἐν τῷ τόπῳ. ἀνέπεσαν οὖν οἱ ἄνδρες τὸν ἀριθμὸν ὡς πεντακισχίλιοι.</p> <p>v.11: ἔλαβεν οὖν τοὺς ἄρτους ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ εὐχαριστήσας διέδωκεν τοῖς ἀνακειμένοις ὁμοίως καὶ ἐκ τῶν ὀψαρίων ὅσον ἤθελον.</p> <p>v.12: ὡς δὲ ἐνεπλήσθησαν, λέγει τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ, Συναγάγετε τὰ περισσεύσαντα κλάσματα, ἵνα μὴ τι ἀπόληται.</p> <p>v.13: συνήγαγον οὖν καὶ ἐγέμισαν δώδεκα κοφίνους κλασμάτων ἐκ τῶν πέντε ἄρτων τῶν κριθίνων ἃ ἐπερίσσευσαν τοῖς βεβρωκόσιν.</p> <p>v.14: Οἱ οὖν ἄνθρωποι ἰδόντες ὃ ἐποίησεν σημεῖον ἔλεγον ὅτι Οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ προφήτης ὁ ἐρχόμενος εἰς τὸν κόσμον.</p> <p>v.15: Ἰησοῦς οὖν γινούς ὅτι μέλλουσιν ἔρχεσθαι καὶ ἀρπάζειν αὐτὸν ἵνα ποιήσωσιν βασιλεία, ἀνεχώρησεν πάλιν εἰς τὸ ὄρος αὐτὸς μόνος.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 5b-11 is comprised of six utterances (vv. 5b, 7b, 9, 10a, 11a, 11b); out of the six utterances three are of Jesus (vv. 5b, 10a, 12b), one is of Philip (v. 7b), one is of Andrew (v. 9) and one is of the people (v. 14b);</p> <p>(2) The six utterances develop in three levels: the first four utterances are before the meal (vv. 5b, 7b, 9, 10a), the fifth one is after the meal (v. 11a), and the last one is after the sign (v. 14b);</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 1-5a, 6, 10b-11, 12b, 13, 15) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 5b, 7a, 8, 10a, 11b, 12a, 14a, 14b, 15).</p>

Table 49: The dialogue of 6:1-15 within the narratorial framework

After a narrative break and record of the central event in vv. 10b-12a, i.e., the miraculous feeding of 5000 people, the dialogue resumes at v. 12b (cf. Wallace, 1996: 204; Chatman, 1978: 132). The utterance in v. 12b is followed by a response from the disciples. Jesus tells them Συναγάγετε τὰ περισσεύσαντα κλάσματα, ἵνα μὴ τι ἀπόληται, but the narrator supplements the scene by describing an action in v. 13. The imperative word συναγάγετε takes the lead in the scene.

unit.¹⁴⁰² The expression οὖν καὶ connects the action of the disciples (v. 13) with the saying of Jesus (v. 12b).¹⁴⁰³ The *utterance* and the *responsive action* at the second level of the slot sustain the requirements of an implicit dialogue. The event/miracle (v. 11) is placed between two imperative statements of Jesus to the disciples (cf. vv. 10a and 12). Although the setting and characters remain same, the previous (vv. 5b-10a) and latter (v. 12) conversations keep the factor of ‘time distance’,¹⁴⁰⁴ i.e., one is before the meal (vv. 5b-10a) and the other is after the meal (vv. 12b-13). The final utterance (see v. 14b) of the first slot becomes a community conversation as the spectators acknowledge Jesus as “the prophet who is to come into the world” (ὁ προφήτης ὁ ἐρχόμενος εἰς τὸν κόσμον).¹⁴⁰⁵ The revelatory aspect of the dialogue is brought to the notice of the reader through this last utterance of the slot (cf. v. 14b; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 215-6; Smith, 1999: 148-9). The adverbial expression ἀληθῶς (cf. Matthew 14:33; John 4:42; 17:8; Acts 12:11) verifies the certainty of the ‘people who saw the sign’. As the narrative develops through the movements of Jesus, his disciples and the multitude of people, the reader of the story can infer about multifarious dialogic interactions implied and abbreviated within the narratorial framework (cf. Windisch, 1993: 41). But the three level development of the dialogue is obvious and reveals Jesus’ role as the prophet who is to come into the world (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 213).

The form of the first slot (6:1-15) can be assessed as follows.¹⁴⁰⁶ The general outline¹⁴⁰⁷ of the slot is: *first*, an extended setting (introducing Jesus and the location, 6:1-3; time, 6:4; and the crowd,

¹⁴⁰² Morris (1995: 305) opines that, “The thought of plentiful supply is continued in the reference to their having ‘had enough to eat’ (cf. Mark 6:42). But though there was abundance there was no waste, for Jesus commanded that they gather up the pieces left over”. Milligan and Moulton (1898; quoted in Morris, 1995: 305) thinks that the reason for this was “to bring out the preciousness of the food which Jesus had given”. Cf. Dodd, 1963: 199-206; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 88-9; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 125-7; Carson, 1991: 267-73; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20; Newman and Nida, 1980: 178-83; Dodd, 1960: 333-5; Painter, 1993: 253-9.

¹⁴⁰³ See the ‘genitive of content’ in v. 13 (i.e., κλασμάτων, cf. Wallace, 1996: 94; Maniparampil, 2004: 251).

¹⁴⁰⁴ ‘Time distance’, here, is the time distance between two events, making them to sit down and gathering the left over. There is no mention in the text how much time they have used for eating. In that case the dialogue breaks at v. 10a and begins a new one at v. 12.

¹⁴⁰⁵ Köstenberger (2004: 203; cf. Witherington, 1995: 152) says that, “This refers to Deut 18:15-18, which also featured significantly in the messianic expectations at Qumran (cf. 4QTest 5-8; 1QS 9:11). Jesus’ multiplication of barley loaves is reminiscent of the miracle performed by Elijah’s follower Elisha (2 Kings 4:42-44). In I Kings 19, a parallel is drawn between Elijah and Moses (cf. Exo 24:18; 34:28)”. Cf. Dodd, 1960: 333-5; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20; Newman and Nida, 1980: 178-83; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Carson, 1991: 267-73; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 88-9; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 125-7; Painter, 1993: 253-9; Dodd, 1963: 199-206.

¹⁴⁰⁶ Stibbe (1993: 82) observes: The feeding of the five thousand (6:1-15), the walking on the sea (6:16-21) and the miraculous catch of fish (21:1-14) stress that their context is Lake Galilee (Tiberias, 6:1; 21:1), they all happen close to or on the sea, and in at least two cases have close parallels (6:11; 21:13). Cf. Matthew 14:13-21; 15:29-38; Mark 6:31-44; 8:1-19; Luke 9:10-17; cf. Hayes and Holladay, 2007: 97-8; Smith, 1999: 146-7. For a more detailed study about John and its relationship with the synoptics, refer to Denaux, 1992; Lindars, 1992: 105-12.

¹⁴⁰⁷ Jesus moves after a Jerusalem event in chap. 5 to a Galilee event in chap. 6. The story is arranged in the following fashion: Context of the sign (vv. 1-5a); a dialogue between Jesus and his disciples on meeting the need of the people (vv. 5b-9); the action of Jesus (vv. 10-11); its sequel in gathering the fragments left over, which confirmed the greatness of the miracle (vv. 12-13); the effect of the event on the crowd (vv. 14-15); and the evening incident (vv. 16-21; cf. Beutler, 1997: 119-20; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85).

6:5a);¹⁴⁰⁸ *second*, an explicit dialogue: among Jesus, Philip and Andrew, vv. 5b-10a;¹⁴⁰⁹ miraculous event, vv.10b-11 (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 14-5; Keener, 2003: 1: 667-8);¹⁴¹⁰ *for* implicit dialogue, v. 12; *fifth*, the aftermath of the sign and the dialogue, v. 13; *sixth*, an dialogue, v. 14; and *seventh*, a closing narratorial, v. 15 (cf. Stibbe, 1991: 22; De Boer, 1948; see Diagram 34).¹⁴¹¹ The slot as a whole has a *narrative, dialogue, narrative, dialogue* (cf. Denning-Bolle, 1992: 69-84).¹⁴¹² Within this coherent structural framework, the plots¹⁴¹³ the story by developing from suspense to surprise.¹⁴¹⁴

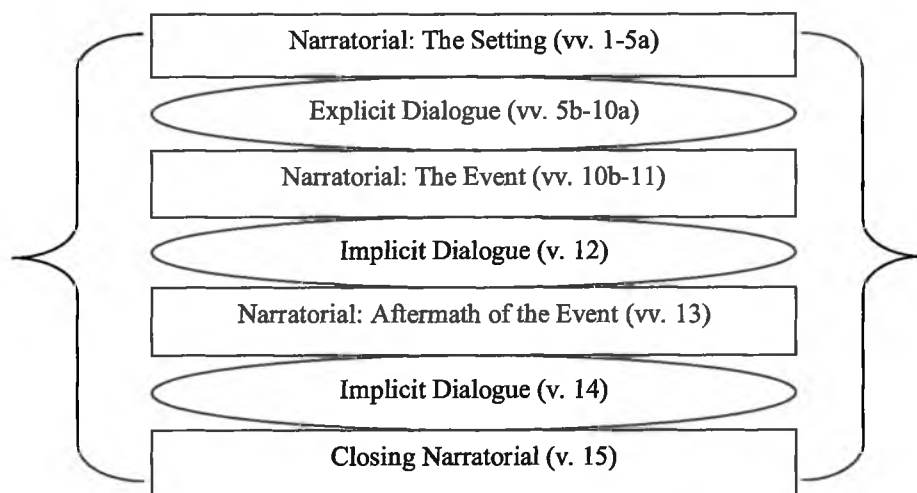


Diagram 34: The development of utterances and narratives

The slot has three levels of dialogue sequentially arranged by the help of narratives; *first* Jesus, Philip and Andrew (vv. 5b-10a),¹⁴¹⁵ *second*, between Jesus and the disciples in ge

¹⁴⁰⁸ In this extended setting section, the narrator introduces the protagonist (i.e., Jesus), the time, and the lar of 5000 people of the story. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 118-20; Carson, 1991: 267-9; Painter, 1993: 253-9.

¹⁴⁰⁹ It develops in a 'triangular dialogue' way as Jesus, Philip, and Andrew are in the scene. But in r perspectives are in conflict, divine (of Jesus) and human (of the disciples). Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 118.

¹⁴¹⁰ For more details about the origin and development of the *Sêmeia Hypothesis*, refer to Van Belle, 1994.

¹⁴¹¹ The extended narrative maintains the following sequence: setting details (vv. 1-5a), dialogue proper (v miracle (vv. 10b-11), implicit dialogue (v. 12), gathering (vv. 13-14a), and community affirmation (v. Carson, 1991: 267-73; Painter, 1993: 253-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-9; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20.

¹⁴¹² Irudaya (2003: 708; cf. Booth, 1996: 113; Taylor, 1984: 33-41; Lindars, 1981: 83-101; Kermode, 1986: that, "The use of speech in the Fourth Gospel is abundant. Discourses and dialogues are a special stylistic John. It has been tabulated that the evangelist has recorded 6387 words of Jesus in addition to 2335 words totaling 8722 words of speech. Fifty-six per cent of the entire Gospel is in the form of speech".

¹⁴¹³ De Klerk and Schnell (1987: 13-4) opine that, "Plot" usually refers to the structure of events in a story various important narrative elements are polarized and strive for equilibrium".

¹⁴¹⁴ While the introduction of massive crowd in a deserted place, Jesus' concern about them, the disciples' i meet their needs, the availability of five loaves and two fish, and Jesus' command to make them sit bring s the reader's mind, the miraculous feeding, the gathering of left over, and the people's utterance in v. surprising moments.

¹⁴¹⁵ The first slot of dialogue can be considered as an intentional initiative of Jesus as the narrator says tl himself knew what he was going to do" (v. 6; αὐτὸς γὰρ ᾔδει τί ἐμελλεν ποιεῖν).

12b), and *third*, as a community dialogue (v. 14b; see Diagram 34).¹⁴¹⁶ While Jesus uses utterance genres like *question of test* (v. 5b; cf. Bennema, 2009: 49) and *order/command* (vv. 7, 9, 12b; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 210-2), his interlocutors use *answer of calculation* (v. 7), *response about availability* (v. 9; cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 665 calls them human solutions), and *exclamation or community whispering* (v. 14b; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 49-50; Talbert, 1992: 131-2).¹⁴¹⁷ At the explicit dialogue level (vv.5b-10a), the conversation¹⁴¹⁸ maintains a sequence of *question of test*, *answers of impossibility*, and *an action of possibility* (see vv. 5b-10a; see Table 50).¹⁴¹⁹ The overall framework of the dialogue is test- (v. 6) and fulfillment-oriented (v. 14b), belief-generating (v. 14b) and revelatory as it reveals Jesus' glory.

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Question of test	Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?
Philip	Answer of calculation/impossibility	Six months wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little
Andrew	Response about availability/human solution/impossibility	A boy has five barley loaves and two fish. That is not sufficient for the large group of people
Jesus	Order/command	Make the people sit down
Jesus	Order/command	Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost
People	Exclamation, community whispering	Jesus is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world

Table 50: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 6:1-15

As indicated above, the dialogue develops through three levels: *first*, in a triangular fashion among Jesus, Philip and Andrew (vv. 5b-10a); *second*, between Jesus and the disciples extended level (v. 12); and *final*, to a broader community level (v. 14). The peculiar Johannine development of dialogue from an 'inner circle' to an 'outer circle' is obvious here.¹⁴²⁰ The dramatic development

¹⁴¹⁶ The development of the dialogues within the framework of the narrative is once again a reality here. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-9; Carson, 1991: 267-73; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Painter, 1993: 253-9.

¹⁴¹⁷ These diverse utterance units of the characters are contextually-inclined. Cf. Carson, 1991: 267-70; Newman and Nida, 1980: 175-83; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Painter, 1993: 253-9; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20. Anderson (2008: 109-11) considers the following three theological dialogisms within the gospel seriously: first, *the dialectical thinking of the Evangelist*; second, *Johannine agency scheme*; and third, *the divine-human dialogue*.

¹⁴¹⁸ Stibbe (1993: 82) observes a fivefold design of 6:1-15, as follows: A (vv. 1-4): Jesus goes to a mountain to minister to the crowd; B (vv. 5-9): The lack: 'How can we feed so many with so little?'; C (vv. 10-11): The Eucharistic actions; B' (vv. 12-13): The provision: 'enough left over for twelve baskets'; and A' (vv. 14-15): Jesus goes to a mountain to escape from the crowds.

¹⁴¹⁹ Keener (2003: 1: 665; cf. Bennema, 2009: 49-50) says that, "Although John later informs us that Judas held the money bag (12:6; 13:29), Jesus directs his question to Philip (6:5), perhaps testing one of those who has already made a profession of faith in him (1:43-46; 6:6). Jesus' signs in the gospel test the response of those who witness them, and here Jesus tests the faith of his disciples in advance". Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-9; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20; Carson, 1991: 267-70; Painter, 1993: 253-9; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 178-80.

¹⁴²⁰ In another sense, the dialogue begins in a smaller circle, develops to an extended circle, and concludes as a community interaction (cf. Robertson, 1932: 100). For more details about "Stylistic Forces in the Narrative", refer to Falk, 1971: 42-50; Nichols, 1971: 130-41.

of the story is featured through these characterial developments (cf. Bowles, 2010; Hägerland, 2003: 309-22).¹⁴²¹ These structural and stylistic features reveal the way the narrator brings the characters together 'perform' the story before the reader (cf. Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95).

There are other noticeable structural features within the slot. A *mountain to mountain inclusion* developed in the first slot as Jesus appears on a mountain (i.e., ἀνῆλθεν δὲ εἰς τὸ ὄρος) at the beginning and withdrew again to the mountain (i.e., ἀνεχώρησεν πάλιν εἰς τὸ ὄρος αὐτὸς) by the end (cf. vv. 3, 15; cf. Dodd, 1960: 333).¹⁴²² The three-level dialogue is inserted within the inclusion.¹⁴²³ The silence of the disciples is a noticeable factor after the miracle. The miracle event (vv. 10b-11) is placed at the centre between the two imperative statements of Jesus: ποιεῖσατε τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀναπεσεῖν, v. 10a; and συναγάγετε τὰ περισσεύσαντα κλάσματα, ὅτι ἀπόληται, v. 12b). This structure forms an *inclusion within the inclusion* in the narrative framework of the story (see Diagram 35). The *sacramental language* of the miracle (ἐλάβεν οὖν τοὺς ἄρτους . . . εὐχαριστήσας διέδωκεν . . . ; v. 11) speaks aloud about the character of both Jesus and the Johannine community (cf. Strachan, 1941: 179; Witkamp, 1990: 44).¹⁴²⁴ As usual, the narrator is telling the event by the help of narratorial devices and their effects.¹⁴²⁵ Moreover, John's incorporation of a 'Moses like prophet' typology (vv. 14-15) and mountain imagery calls the readers' attention for a Moses and Jesus *intertextual resonance* (cf. Hylen, 2005: 43-6; Strachan, 1941: 180-1).¹⁴²⁶

¹⁴²¹ Visotzky (2005: 92; cf. Tan, 1993: 28-51) considers John's Gospel as a four-level drama: first, the *first level* is the story of Jesus, his ministry, and his crucifixion; second, the *second level* is the story of John's own community and how they were, expressed through the first level but peeping through on its own here and there; third, the *third level* is John's Gospel drama is that of the received text of the NT, and its interpretations and uses throughout the centuries; and fourth, on the *fourth level*, we (the readers) are the players in the drama.

¹⁴²² Keener (2003: 1: 664) says that, "John's mention of the 'mountain' in v. 3 could reflect a minor allusion to the Moses tradition that will dominate the following discourse, especially given the repetition of the mountain in v. 15." Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 175-83; Dodd, 1960: 333; Painter, 1993: 253-9; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-9; Carson, 1991: 267-73.

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¹⁴²⁴ Maniparampil (2004: 251; cf. Witherington, 1995: 152) says that, "The blessing over the bread reminds of Eucharistic blessing". Cf. Carson, 1991: 267-70; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-9; Painter, 1993: 253-9; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 175-83.

¹⁴²⁵ Verses 1b and 6 are *explanatory notes*; the first one is to explain a name and the second one to correct misunderstanding. See Stibbe, 1993: 83-4; Painter, 1993: 253-9; Barrett, 1978: 271-8.

¹⁴²⁶ *Resounding* the OT stories in his writings can be considered as a peculiar dialogic tendency of the author. Beasley-Murray (1987: 88) states that, "The statement as to the nearness of the Passover (v. 4), the identification of John the Baptist as the prophet who should come (cf. Deut 18:15), and the discussion on the bread from heaven within the discourse (vv. 33-34) combine to indicate that the feeding miracle is understood as falling within the fulfillment of the hope of the Exodus". Moloney (1998: 199) states that, "There are parallels between the disciples' response to Jesus' subsequent miracle and the story of Elisha's feeding of the one hundred men in 2 Kings. 4:42-44". Similarly, Beasley-Murray (1993: 81; cf. Lierman, 2004; Moo, 1984: 3-49; Witkamp, 1990: 46; Motyer, 1997: 123-4) remarks that Moses is the *sensus plenior* of the Jesus story, just as Jesus is the *sensus plenior* of the Moses story. Beasley-Murray (1991/1996: 49) says that, "The mention of the Passover in verse 4 strengthens associations with the Exodus story. In this way language, meaning and context interact within narrative texts (cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 26-39; Van Dijk, 1995: 260-6)."



Diagram 35 shows an outer parenthesis (i.e., a mountain inclusion, vv. 3 and 15), dialogue development (one before the meal and one after the meal, vv. 5b-10a and 12b-14), an inner parenthesis (inclusion; Jesus' two imperatives before and after the meal, vv. 10a, 12b), and the actual event at the centre (vv. 10b-11).

John's story of feeding the multitude has parallels in the other NT writings. Blomberg (2001: 118-20) says that, "Here we come for the first time since chap. 1 to an entire passage that has undisputed parallels in the Synoptic Gospels, indeed in all three of them". John 6 in fact contains an interesting series of parallels, some merely conceptual, to a sequence of events that spans Mark 6-8: the feeding of the five thousand, walking on the water, a request for a sign, discourse about bread, Peter's confession, and Jesus' anticipation of the passion (cf. Nicol, 1972: 32-3, 74).¹⁴²⁷ The narrative as a whole is a *miracle novellen*¹⁴²⁸ shaped by the help of a three level dialogue interlocked within the narrative (cf. Womack, 2011: 38-81; Stibbe, 1994: 79). In short, the dialogic slot has the following overarching structural formats: *first*, it has a *dialogue* (vv. 5b-10a),¹⁴²⁹ *action* (vv. 10b-11) and *dialogue* (vv. 12, 14)¹⁴³⁰ sequence; and *second*, it develops from *suspense to surprise* (cf. Majercik, 1992: 2: 185-8).¹⁴³¹

The dialogue sections in John are introduced in diverse ways as follows: *first*, the interlocutors of Jesus come up with their questions or concerns and Jesus responds to them one after another (2:1-11; 3:1-21; 4:46-54); *second*, Jesus approaches his interlocutors with certain questions or concerns and from there the dialogue progresses (1:43-51; 4:1-26; 5:1-18); and *third*, Jesus predestines the event and on that basis he raises questions to his interlocutors (6:1-15).¹⁴³² In 6:1-15, the dialogue

¹⁴²⁷ Make a comparison between the structural frameworks of Mark and John. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 118; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-9; Carson, 1991: 267-9; Brown, 1966: 238; Barrett, 1978: 271-8.

¹⁴²⁸ According to Moloney (1998: 197), "Differently from the two Cana miracles (2:1-12; 4:43-54), the traditional form of a miracle story is found here". Nicol (1972: 32) says that, "Vv. 2-9b . . . have the basic form of a synoptic miracle story".

¹⁴²⁹ It has a *question of test, answers of impossibility* and *action of possibility* sequence.

¹⁴³⁰ Both the *dialogue with the disciples* after the event (v. 12b) and the *community dialogue* (v. 14b).

¹⁴³¹ See more about the usage of the literary devices and rhetorical devices, Hayes and Holladay, 2007: 98-9.

¹⁴³² John 6:1-15 is mostly functioning within the framework of a third category dialogue. Cf. Morris, 1995: 300-6; Brown, 1966: 232-50; Dodd, 1960: 333-45; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-8; Stibbe, 1993: 80-4; Moloney, 1998: 197-201; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Köstenberger, 2004: 199-204; Newman and Nida, 1980: 175-83.

progresses as Jesus seeks the psyche of his disciples (vv. 5b-6). The dialogue is initiated by a testing question addressed to Philip (v. 5b).¹⁴³³ The question was intended to know at faith concerns and the integrity of his disciple. Philip's answer with a connotation of 'impossibility' (v. 7) leads another interlocutor, i.e., Andrew, to come up with a 'possibility' (v. 9).¹⁴³⁴ Jesus' statement in v. 10a, i.e., *πολήσατε τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀναπεσεῖν* understood as a mark of 'possibility'. Neyrey (2007: 118) concludes his commentary passage by stating that, "thus a 'severe' problem is solved, 'proof' of which is given impressive surplus".¹⁴³⁵ Jesus' statement toward the end of the 'feeding event' (cf. v. 12) considered as a confirmation of 'beyond possibility' (v. 12; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 102-5; W 1990: 43-51). As Jesus' dialogue moves from utterance to action, the disciples/crowds express the presence of the saviour (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 14-5).

There are seams of dialogues function in vv. 1-15: *first*, dialogues between Jesus and his community (one *explicit*, vv. 5b-10a; and one *implicit*, v. 12), which reveal the identity of Jesus; *second*, the *community dialogue* (v. 14), which makes the reader aware about the impact of Jesus' works and deeds outside the circle of disciples; *third*, the *inter-textual dialogue*, which confirms fulfillment aspects;¹⁴³⁶ and *fourth*, the *narrator and reader dialogue*, which marks a continuing impact of Jesus' story in the life of the reader (cf. Press, 2007: 59). The intimate nature of the Johannine narratives communicates with the heart of the reader. John's story to speak from heart to heart generates greater dialogical results. The narrator uses *intertextual resounding*¹⁴³⁷ as one of the more noticeable literary tenets all through chapter six (cf. Kennedy 1984: 14; Resseguie, 2001: 104-6).¹⁴³⁸ The use of natural and geographical surroundings

¹⁴³³ The narratorial note in v. 6 points out two things: *first*, Jesus' question to Philip (v. 5b) was intended to test him; and *second*, while asking the question Jesus knew what he was going to do in advance. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-8; Stibbe, 1993: 80-4; Köstenberger, 2004: 199-204; Brown, 1966: 232-50; Moloney, 1998: 197-201.

¹⁴³⁴ See Num 11:13 (cf. Brown, 1966: 233; Moloney, 1998: 197; Burge, 2000: 193). Köstenberger (2004: 201) states that, "There are several other parallels between John 6 and Num 11: the grumbling of the people (Num 11:1, 43); the description of the manna (Num 11:7-9; John 6:31); the reference to the eating of meat [John 6:31]; and the striking disproportion between the existing need and the available resources (Num 11:22; John 6:7-9)". Köstenberger (2004: 201) further states that, "In the wilderness, Moses asked God for help: 'Where can I get meat for all these people?'".

¹⁴³⁵ The details about the surplus in vv. 13 and the people's utterance in v. 14 are rhetorical in effect. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-8; Stibbe, 1993: 80-4; Dodd, 1960: 333-45; Newman and Nida, 1980: 175-83; Brown, 1966: 232-50; Barrett, 1978: 271-8; Köstenberger, 2004: 199-204; Morris, 1995: 300-4; Carson, 1991: 267-73.

¹⁴³⁶ The text reminds us about the story of Moses in Mount Sinai and the feeding of the people of Israel in the wilderness.

¹⁴³⁷ *Resounding* is the adjectival usage of the verb *resound*, which means "to fill a place with sound", "to be loud", "(of a sound) very loud and continuing for a long time". In the study, the usage is employed to tell the impact of other texts on the thinking of the author. It is not employed by way of a mere intertextuality; rather, it is an *echo-language*. A reader of John chap. 6 automatically brought into the scene of the OT stories. See the comparison between synoptics and John in presenting the narrative, Dodd, 1963: 200-11; Painter, 1991: 19-20; Blomberg, 2001: 118-20. Blomberg (2001: 120; cf. Ridderbos, 1997: 211) states that, "Only John phrases Jesus' question to Philip as a question (v. 5) and clarifies that this was a 'test' (v. 6). John agrees with Matthew and Luke agree in phrasing Philip's response as a statement (v. 7). All this 'is a clear illustration of how details can be used to function differently depending on the context'".

¹⁴³⁸ Köstenberger (2004: 202) points out that, "The reference to the large number of those present underlines the greatness of Jesus' miracle". Neyrey (2007: 116) states that, "The notice of Passover (6:4) urges the audience to reflect on the significance of the event".

with the involvement of the flesh and blood characters and their dialogues makes the narrative realistic in effect.¹⁴³⁹ The development of the narrative from a context of scarcity (vv. 5b-9) to a context of abundance (vv. 10-13) is presented with dialogical effects.¹⁴⁴⁰ Witkamp (1990: 50) views the story as a catechetical and didactic one.¹⁴⁴¹ He (1990: 50) explains further that, "The writer wants to get at something. He wants us to see that the miracle of the bread is no mere miracle, but that Jesus deliberately acted to reveal himself and his gifts, as well as, to disclose his concern for the people given to him".¹⁴⁴² The narrator's abbreviating tendencies are attempts to make the dialogues and narratives as succinct as possible. The narrative segments and their sequential development dramatise the entire story (cf. Funk, 1988: ix-xii, 1-58; Elam, 1980: 135-91).¹⁴⁴³ In the story, Jesus reveals his identity through dialogues and actions and that further helps the narrator to develop the plot (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53; Chatman, 1978: 143).¹⁴⁴⁴ The portrayal of Jesus through a *dialogue* (vv. 5b-10a), a *sign* (vv. 10b-11) and a subsequent *dialogue* (vv. 12-14) persuades the reader to be a dialoguing and practicing follower (cf. Vorster, 2009: 505-78; Court, 1997: 73-86). The performative function of the story is reflected through its language, dialogue and action.¹⁴⁴⁵

of Moses, Manna, and the Exodus as the relevant background for the current events". Stibbe (1993: 81) observes that, ". . . the narrator is using Moses as a hermeneutical key to our understanding" Cf. Moloney, 1998: 197-201; Brown, 1966: 232-50; Morris, 1995: 300-4; Ridderbos, 1997: 212; Talbert, 1992: 132.

¹⁴³⁹ The ecologically intertwined stage of the narrative brings immediate effects to the aspirations of the reader. In the story, the naturally-intertwined Galilean context is the platform for the flesh and blood characters to move, act and dialogue. Cf. Brown, 1966: 232-50; Stibbe, 1993: 80-4; Köstenberger, 2004: 199-204.

¹⁴⁴⁰ The setting, plot, characterisation, central act, and the dialogue are patterned to contrast between the human scarcity and God's richness. Cf. Resseguie, 2001: 102-3; Morris, 1995: 305; Brown, 1966: 232-50; Köstenberger, 2004: 199-204; Newman and Nida, 1980: 175-83; Moloney, 1998: 197-201; Dodd, 1960: 333-45.

¹⁴⁴¹ Witkamp (1990: 50) says that, "The narrative of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes appears to be presented as catechesis. Jesus acts like a teacher who wants his pupils to advance in understanding and challenges them to do so. We could also say that there is a didactic motive in the composition".

¹⁴⁴² Newheart (1996: 48) says that, "In reading a narrative, a reader responds emotionally to the characters, images, plot, and rhetoric of the narrative. The reader is afraid when the protagonist enters into a dangerous situation, angry when the antagonist threatens the protagonist, and glad when the protagonist emerges triumphant. In psychological terms, these emotional responses are a result of the flow of libido, or psychic energy, in the unconscious".

¹⁴⁴³ Lee (2004: 181) says that, ". . . the Bible is a dramatic narrative rather than simply a descriptive narrative". For more details about the dramatic development of John, refer to Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24.

¹⁴⁴⁴ De Klerk and Schnell (1987: 14-5; cf. Templeton, 1999: 53-65; Moore, 1989: 14-5) say that, "The story of John is an excellent example of a revelational plot. The main concern is with Jesus' true identity and significance, which are revealed through the action". Lee (2004: 179) says that, ". . . the soul of a story, as Aristotle had once said, is the plot. The Bible is above all else a series of events configured around a plot".

¹⁴⁴⁵ When discussing about Plato's dialogues, Press (2007: 60) says that, "The dialogues contain not only informational or assertive sentences and passages, but also exhibitiv and performative ones". What Press says here about Platonic dialogues is also true with the Johannine dialogues. Cf. Geller, 1982: 3-40; Elam, 1980: 135.

8.2.2. Slot Two (6:16-21)

In vv. 16-21, the content of the dialogue is mostly implicit. Here, the narrator introduces another setting.¹⁴⁴⁶ The Johannine trend of communication in ‘active voice’ forms is well-as can be seen in v. 20 (i.e., ‘εγώ εἰμι, μὴ φοβεῖσθε’).¹⁴⁴⁷ Jesus’ activities like περιπατοῦντα θαλάσσης and ἐγγὺς τοῦ πλοίου γινόμενον lead the disciples into a ‘terrified’ (Gk. ἐφοβήθησαν) situation and that compels Jesus for his very utterance (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 214-6; Strachan, 1981: 218-22).¹⁴⁴⁸ The narrator of the story prompts the reader to presume a dialogue among the disciples concerning the unidentified person who was walking on the water (see Table 51).¹⁴⁴⁹ Moloney (1998: 203; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 117; Neyrey, 2007: 119) states that, “It is as Lord that Jesus comes across the waters, reveals himself to the disciples with the formula ‘I am’ (‘εγώ εἰμι’) and tells them not to fear (v. 20)”.¹⁴⁵⁰ Though the setting changes in v. 16, the first two slots involve the same interlocutors until the narrative gives way to another slot of dialogue between Jesus and the crowd/Jews in vv. 25-71.¹⁴⁵¹

John 6:16-21	Overview
<p>v.16: Ὡς δὲ ὀψία ἐγένετο κατέβησαν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τὴν θάλασσαν</p> <p>v.17: καὶ ἐμβάντες εἰς πλοῖον ἤρχοντο πέραν τῆς θαλάσσης εἰς Καφαρναούμ. καὶ σκοτία ἦδη ἐγεγόνει καὶ οὐπω ἐληλύθει πρὸς αὐτοὺς ὁ Ἰησοῦς,</p> <p>v.18: ἡ τε θάλασσα ἀνέμου μεγάλου πνέοντος διεγείρετο.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 16-21 is implicit as it sustains one utterance unit (v. 20). But, a reader can notice inferential dialogues when “they saw Jesus walking on the water and were terrified” (i.e., among themselves), when “they wanted to get into the boat” (i.e., between them and Jesus), and when “they reached the land” (i.e., among themselves/between them and Jesus; vv. 19, 21a);</p>

¹⁴⁴⁶ Moloney (1998: 202) breaks the pericope into four sections as follows: *first*, setting the scene and the (vv. 16-17); *second*, the problem of the storm is reported (v. 18); *third*, Jesus comes to the disciples across the waters (vv. 19-20); and *fourth*, the aftermath of the miracle (v. 21).

¹⁴⁴⁷ Burge (1992: 354-5) says that, “More difficult are passages where Jesus says ‘I am’ and we are left uncertain as to whether it is a predicate or if the phrase is being used for self-identification. In John 6:20 the frightened disciples are comforted when Jesus says, ‘εγώ εἰμι, do not be afraid’. He may mean, ‘It is I’”. For the position adopting the latter interpretation, see Feuillet, 1966: 19-21; Robertson, 1932: 102; Schnackenburg, 1968-1982: 2:27; Moloney, 1998: 204; Painter, 1993: 266; Carson, 1991: 275-6; Newman and Nida, 1980: 186-7; Dodd, 1960: 345. There may be a recalling of the Exodus tradition concerning the crossing of the Reed Sea found in Psalm 77:18-19 (cf. Brown, 1966: 255-6; but see the observations of Schnackenburg, 1968-1982: 2: 29-30).

¹⁴⁴⁸ Köstenberger (2004: 205; cf. Beutler, 1997: 120; Talbert, 1992: 133; Giblin, 1983: 96-103; Stibbe, Wallace, 1996: 585) is of the opinion that, “The fear of the disciples is concomitant with the sight they beheld of Jesus walking on the water. The fear is appropriate for seeing the divine or supernatural”. Cf. Dodd, 1963: 196-9; Brown, 1966: 251-6.

¹⁴⁴⁹ Carson (1991: 275; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 204) describes about the Sea of Galilee as follows: “The Sea lies about six hundred feet below sea level. Cool air from the south-eastern tablelands can rush in to displace the moist air over the lake, churning up the water in a violent squall”.

¹⁴⁵⁰ Neyrey (2007: 118; cf. Brant, 2004: 172; Wallace, 1996: 724) says that, “More than the synoptics, John presents the event as a theophany—that is, the revelation of a heavenly figure (‘they were frightened’)—not the event as a miracle. Unlike the synoptic accounts, the disciples are mute here, so that Jesus alone speaks to them and takes the fear away and wishes them peace, the opposite of fear. Cf. Matthew 14:26; Luke 1:1; Ridderbos, 1997: 217; Brown, 1966: 251-6; Dodd, 1960: 345; Painter, 1993: 266.

¹⁴⁵¹ But the disciples act as on-lookers during the dialogue between Jesus and the crowd/Jews in vv. 25-59.

<p>v.19:ἐληλακότες οὖν ὡς σταδίους ἑκοσι πέντε ἢ τριάκοντα θεωροῦσιν τὸν Ἰησοῦν περιπατοῦντα ἐπὶ τῆς θαλάσσης καὶ ἐγγὺς τοῦ πλοίου γινόμενον, καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν.</p> <p>v.20:ὁ δὲ λέγει αὐτοῖς, Ἐγὼ εἰμι, μὴ φοβεῖσθε.</p> <p>v.21:ἤθελον οὖν λαβεῖν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸ πλοῖον, καὶ εὐθέως ἐγένετο τὸ πλοῖον ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς εἰς ἣν ὑπήγον.</p>	<p>(2) The terrified situation of the disciples (v. 19b), Jesus' utterance to them (v. 20), their immediate reaction (v. 21a), and their miraculous reaching to the shore (v. 21b) make the possibilities of implicit dialogical seams;</p> <p>(3) The text is mostly comprised of narratives (vv. 16-19, 21). The single utterance unit (v. 20) is introduced by way of a formula narrative (v. 20a)</p>
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Table 51: The dialogue of 6:16-21 within the narratorial framework

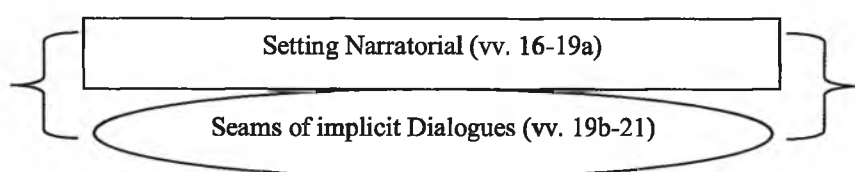


Diagram 36: The development of utterances and narratives

The short pericope at vv. 16-21 begins and develops as a narratorial (vv. 16-19a). This includes the disciples' terrified situation (v. 19b), Jesus' response to them in an active voice form (v. 20), their desire to take Jesus into the boat (v. 21a), their sudden reaching land and the amazement (v. 21b). The second half (i.e., vv. 19b-21) particularly awakens the attention of the readers (cf. Nicol, 1972: 58-9; see Diagram 36).¹⁴⁵² Painter (1993: 254) is of the opinion that, "In the narrative of the sea-crossing (6:16-21) only one saying of Jesus is introduced though the story is told from the perspective of the disciples".¹⁴⁵³ Although Painter emphasises that the story was written from the perspective of the disciples, their involvement as speakers is implicit within the text.¹⁴⁵⁴ The reader of the story can make better sense of the narrative by way of conjecturing and inserting the possible seams of dialogues within the text.

¹⁴⁵² Though John's usual trend is to describe narratives by way of characterial dialogues, in 6:16-21 the narratorial technique of abbreviation is rightly at view. The narrative makes more sense when one interlocks the pericope with synoptic parallels.

¹⁴⁵³ Painter (1993: 254) further says that, "The specific reference about their fear (6:19) and their failure to speak to Jesus further manifests their lack of comprehension".

¹⁴⁵⁴ In John's narratives, usually the stories are told from the perspective of Jesus the protagonist and the narrator concentrates both on his utterances and actions. In vv. 16-21, the story is told from the disciples' perspective and hence the narrator avoids their utterances.

Matthew 14:28-33 extends the incident into another level, as a dialogue between Jesus and Peter
<i>Peter:</i> Κύριε, εἰ σὺ εἶ, κέλευσόν με ἔλθειν πρὸς σε ἐπὶ τὰ ὕδατα
<i>Jesus:</i> Ἐλθέ
<i>Peter:</i> Κύριε, σῶσόν με
<i>Jesus:</i> Ὁλιγόπιστε, εἰς τί ἐδίστασας;
<i>Other Disciples:</i> Ἀληθῶς θεοῦ υἱὸς εἶ

Table 52: The dialogue extension in Matthew 14:28-33

An interlocked reading of Mark, Matthew and John (John 6:16-21; cf. Mark 6:45-52; M 14:22-36) leads the reader to contemplate the implicit dialogical seams within the pericope (Resseguie, 2005: 54).¹⁴⁵⁵ While Mark records that “they thought it was a ghost and cried out in fear” (6:49-50), Matthew reports that “they were terrified, saying, ‘It is a ghost!’ (Φάντασμα ἔστιν) and they cried out in fear” (14:26-27).¹⁴⁵⁶ Moreover, in Matthew, a further dialogue is introduced between Jesus and Peter (14: 28-33; see Table 52). According to Morris (1995: 307; cf. W 1990: 52-3), “Matthew speaks of Peter’s attempt to walk on the water, a detail not found in the other two accounts (i.e., Mark and John)”. John’s Gospel records neither utterance of the disciples (i.e., Φάντασμα ἔστιν) nor the subsequent dialogue between Jesus and Peter (cf. W 1991/1996: 52-3; Robertson, 1932: 101-2).¹⁴⁵⁷ Johannine abbreviating tendencies and the concluding the narrative call the attention of the reader.¹⁴⁵⁸

The first miracle narrative (vv. 1-15) is described with more clarity than the second (cf. vv. 16-21; cf. Dodd, 1963: 196-9; Kennedy, 1984: 15). John’s narratives are basically structured in terms of dialogues between the narrator and the reader; but dialogues between characters in the narratives are action/movement oriented, vibrant, implicit and revelatory.¹⁴⁵⁹ Moloney (1998: 181-3) states concerning vv. 16-21 the following: “The narrative had reached a point at which the characters in the story were separated (vv. 15-16). Jesus and the disciples

¹⁴⁵⁵ Witkamp (1990: 44; cf. Dodd, 1963: 197) says that, “. . . we find that both (i.e., John and Mark) give the same account of the incident. . . . Jesus, Ἐγὼ εἰμι, μὴ φοβεῖσθε, identically, but beyond this the only words in common are those for boat, across, sea, wind, and row, with the indispensable περιπατεῖν ἐπὶ τῆς θαλάσσης, and without these it is difficult to see how the story could be told at all”.

¹⁴⁵⁶ Witkamp (1990: 52) further says that, “In Mark the walking on the sea is essentially a miracle-story. It closes with an expression of amazement. In John there is no such comment. Moreover, the entire *pattern* is different. It is the pattern of a post-resurrection narrative and not that of a miracle-story. In these narratives the recognition of the risen Christ, appearing to his bereaved disciples, is invariably emphasised”.

¹⁴⁵⁷ While Mark records the utterance of the disciples in ‘passive voice form’, Matthew records that in ‘active voice form’. But John does not include the utterance in any of the above forms.

¹⁴⁵⁸ In Luke, the water-crossing narrative is not at all included. Painter (1993: 256) observes that, “Both Mark and Luke go on (with minor variations) to indicate that the disciples did this while Jesus dismissed the crowd. This is different from John, where it is Jesus who withdrew from the crowd. The destination of John and Mark also differs. . . . The variations in wording are more serious obstacles to a theory of synoptic dependence in the light of these observations. . . . Dodd (1963: 197) is of the view that, “The form or pattern of the pericope differs markedly in the two gospels because in John the story is told consistently from the point of view of the disciples, while in Mark it is told consistently, from the point of view of Jesus”.

¹⁴⁵⁹ Cf. Brown, 1966: 251-6; Dodd, 1963: 196-9; Moloney, 1998: 202-4; Keener, 2003: 671-4; Beasley-Murray, 1989-90; Morris, 1995: 307-10; Köstenberger, 2004: 204-5.

reunited (v. 20). The reunion is marked by Jesus' coming to the disciples as Lord, revealing himself as I am, and being received by them (v. 21)".¹⁴⁶⁰ The narrator's expressive form *from separation to reunion* has a dialogical value in the passage (cf. Resseguie, 2001: 100-2).¹⁴⁶¹ The table below helps us to review both the explicit and implicit utterances within the slot (see Table 53).¹⁴⁶² While the disciples' utterances show their *fearfulness*, *expression of desire* and *question*,¹⁴⁶³ the single utterance of Jesus is an attempt to *comfort* and a *revelation* of his personal identity. These implicit forms of utterances on the part of the disciples supplement the very utterance of Jesus in v. 20 (see Table 53).

Utterance	Form	Content
Disciples	Utterance out of fear/cry out of fear	Like "It is a ghost!" (v. 19b)
Jesus	Utterance in order to comfort	"It is I, do not be afraid" (v. 20)
Disciples	Invitation/expressing desire	Possibly like "Lord get into the boat" (v. 21a)
Disciples	Question	Possibly like "Lord, how we reached the land?" (v. 21b)

Table 53: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 6:16-21

While Morris (1995: 309-10) sees "a hint of deity",¹⁴⁶⁴ Köstenberger (2004: 205) finds "overtones of epiphany" in Jesus' words and actions.¹⁴⁶⁵ The words of Jesus transform the disciples' disposition from 'terrified' in the situation to a time of 'gladness' (cf. Ball, 1996: 181-5; Neyrey, 2007: 119).¹⁴⁶⁶ In short, the narratorial and its implicit dialogue develop within a *separation to reunion*,¹⁴⁶⁷ *elusive to revelatory*, and *non-recognition to recognition* framework (cf. Stibbe, 1993:

¹⁴⁶⁰ Moloney (1998: 203) further says that, "The false messianic hopes of the crowds (vv. 14-15) have been corrected by Jesus' self-revelation (v. 20), and the disciples are willing recipients of that revelation (v. 21)".

¹⁴⁶¹ Neyrey (2007: 118) says that, ". . . Jesus and the disciples are dramatically separated, with Jesus alone on a mountain and the disciples in a boat on the sea. Yet they are mysteriously reunited hours later when Jesus intentionally comes to them, collapsing distance and difficulty".

¹⁴⁶² Brant (2004: 109) says that, "Back-to-back lines of narrative and Jesus' direct speech report that the disciples were afraid when they saw Jesus walking on the water (6:19-20)". Köstenberger (2004: 204) is of the opinion that, "When they see Jesus approaching, walking on the water, they are gripped by fear, at first failing to recognise him".

¹⁴⁶³ Bultmann (1971: 216) sees a 'miracle within a miracle' when he says, ". . . the miracle of landing is added to the miracle of the walking on the lake".

¹⁴⁶⁴ Morris (1995: 310; cf. Kermode, 1987: 443, 453) notes that, "ἐγώ εἰμι is often the style of deity, especially in the Greek Old Testament. Undoubtedly such a meaning is conveyed in some places in this Gospel (e.g., 8:58). But here it is primarily a means of self-identification".

¹⁴⁶⁵ Culpepper (1983: 91; cf. O'Day, 1997: 159) says that, "The walking on the water may not involve the stilling of the storm at all. Its significance, which is hardly developed, lies in its re-enactment of the exodus and its character as an epiphany". Keener (2003: 1: 671-75) entitles this section as a "Theophany on the Waters". "I am" is God's name in the OT; see Exo 3:14; also see Beasley-Murray, 1987: 89-90; Newman and Nida, 1980: 186-7; Witherington, 1995: 153; Painter, 1993: 266; Dodd, 1963: 196-9; Barrett, 1978: 281; Blomberg, 2001: 122; Burge, 2000: 193-5; Carson, 1991: 275-6; Brown, 1966: 254-6.

¹⁴⁶⁶ Jesus' saying in v. 20 determines the story's internal dialogical thread. It is coupled with one of Jesus' ἐγώ εἰμι sayings. The dialogical effect of Jesus' utterance upon the disciples has to be taken up seriously. John, here, uses dialogue not merely as a passive vocal delivery, but as an effective means of transformation.

¹⁴⁶⁷ John's dialogical interest is obvious through the insertion of Jesus' saying ἐγώ εἰμι, μὴ φοβεῖσθε (v. 20). The expressions at the beginning of the passage, like κατέβησαν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τὴν θάλασσαν, ἐμβάντες εἰς πλοῖον, and ἤρχοντο πέραν τῆς θαλάσσης εἰς Καφαρναούμ (vv. 16-17), clearly mark the longing of the disciples to be reunited

84-5). Moreover, the implicit dialogues emerge out of the circumstance of Jesus' walking on water. In that sense, the action/sign performance of Jesus leads to seams of dialogues (ac 19a; seams of dialogues, vv. 19b, 20, 21a, 21b). And if the reader cogitates on the miraculously reaching land and conjectures about a dialogue either among the disciples or between them and Jesus as an aftermath, then the entire slot has an *action* (v. 19a), *dialogues* (vv. 21a), *action* (v. 21b), and *dialogue* (v. 21b) sequence.

The Johannine trend of abbreviating the narratives (especially the events and the dialogue) is again demonstrated in vv. 16-21. Throughout the above discussed literary dynamics the text shares with the reader several functional aspects of the slot. In section 6:1-21, a reader can follow the following sequence of events and dialogues: *first*, a dialogue between Jesus and his disciples Philip and Andrew; vv. 5b-10a); *second*, the multiplication of the bread by Jesus (vv. 11-14b); *third*, further dialogues (i.e., one with the disciples and the other at the community level; vv. 15-16b); *fourth*, Jesus' walking on the water (v. 19a); *fifth*, seams of implied dialogues and Jesus' authoritative position as the *ἐγώ εἰμι* (vv. 19b, 20, 21a); *sixth*, the miraculous reaching of the land (v. 21b); and *seventh*, an implied dialogue either among the disciples or between Jesus and the disciples (v. 21b).¹⁴⁶⁸ The reader of the story can observe, firstly a *dialogue, action, dialogues* sequence (vv. 1-15) and then an *action, dialogues, action, and dialogue* sequence (vv. 16-21; cf. Nicol, 1972: 58-9) of events.¹⁴⁶⁹ The interaction of actions and implicit and dialogues functions both rhetorically and performatively between the text and the reader. The events and the dialogues in 6:1-21 further guide the reader toward an extended dialogue between Jesus and the crowd in 6:25-59.¹⁴⁷⁰ O'Day (1997: 159) is of the estimation that "the narrative's theological function of John 6:15-21 becomes even clearer when read in the light of John 6:25-59. The power that enables Jesus to feed the multitudes is not the power of either a prophet or a king. Rather, it is the power of the one who walks across the sea. That is, it is the power of Christ. The story of Jesus walking on the water thus functions in the FG as a narrative embodiment

with Jesus. Their longing reaches its fulfillment when ἤθελον λαβεῖν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸ πλοῖον (i.e., 'then they take him into the boat'; v. 21). Neyrey (2007: 118-19; cf. John 6: 21) says that, "All four gospels narrate this in such a way that two elements are emphasised, namely separation and reunion It may be a small part of the story, but it is a significant part. John 'they wanted to receive him into the boat'".

¹⁴⁶⁸ Ball (1996: 181; cf. Heil, 1981: 79) says that, "It is true that this *ἐγώ εἰμι* saying concerns Jesus' identity as much as the disciples do not recognise that it is Jesus who is approaching them". See Köstenberger, 2004; Carson, 1991: 275-6; Keener, 2003: 671-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 186-7; Painter, 1993: 266; Dodd, 1963: 345; Morris, 1995: 307-10; Brown, 1966: 251-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 89-90.

¹⁴⁶⁹ Strachan (1941: 182; cf. Nicol, 1972: 34) says, "John sees a symbolic meaning in the conjunction (i.e., not afraid'), and makes it contribute to the teaching of the discourse that follows, on the Bread of Life". (1990: 51; also refer to 55-6) says, ". . . it must be the *ἐγώ εἰμι* in v. 20 that is the centre of the narrative" (1977: 129) has the opinion that the purpose of the narrative is Jesus' self-revelation to his disciples, *only* to

¹⁴⁷⁰ Also to the dialogues between Jesus and the disciples (i.e., vv. 60-65, 66-71). For more details, refer to Nicol, 1972: 58-9; Bailey and Broek, 1992: 175; Morris, 1995: 307-10; Dodd, 1963: 196-9; Brown, 1966: 251-6; Köstenberger, 2004: 204-5; Moloney, 1998: 202-4.

Gospel's Christology".¹⁴⁷¹ The narrator of the story takes the emotions of the interlocutors into serious consideration for the purpose of persuading the reader.¹⁴⁷² While the content of the dialogue is to reveal Jesus' identity as the "I Am", the form used to convey the message is an *action, dialogues, action, and dialogue* framework. It functions both as a narrative embodiment of John's Christology and as a persuasive unit for the reader to reckon with.

8.2.3. Slot Three (6:22-71)

The latter part of chap. 6 (vv. 22-71) encompasses a large slot with at least three sub-slots of dialogues. They are: *first*, Jesus' discourse with the crowd/Jews¹⁴⁷³ structured in the form of a dialogue (vv. 22-59; cf. Von Wahlde, NTS: 33-60); *second*, his dialogue with the disciples (vv. 60-66); and *third*, his dialogue with the Twelve (vv. 67-70).¹⁴⁷⁴ Dodd (1963: 196) is of the opinion that, "The sixth chapter of the Gospel according to John has for its centerpiece a long dialogue on the theme the *Bread of Life*, to which the evangelist has appended a note that it took place in the synagogue at Capernaum (6:25-59; cf. Keener, 2003: 675-6). Two shorter dialogues are added, each with brief introductory and explanatory notes (vv. 60-65, 66-71)".¹⁴⁷⁵ The narrative section in vv. 22-24 serves as a *conclusion* to the previous section (i.e., vv. 1-21) and as an *introduction* to the latter (i.e., vv. 25-71).

¹⁴⁷¹ O'Day (1997: 159) further says that, "Just as John 10:30 provides a verbal summary of the gospel's central claim about God and Jesus, John 6:15-21 offers a narrative summary of the same claim. The theophany narrative is emblematic of the theological reality in which the entire Gospel is grounded".

¹⁴⁷² Windisch (1993: 41) says that, in John 6 "the narrative that precedes the sermon concerns a completely synoptic subject, the miracle of the loaves with the subsequent walking on the water. A comparison shows that John indeed had the synoptic accounts in front of him, but that he offers an independent presentation as a whole, which—and this is again absolutely Johannine—is marked by a rather richer dramatic shape".

¹⁴⁷³ Though the first sub-slot (vv. 25-59) begins as a dialogue between the crowd and Jesus, a shift can be noticed in the latter part of the section (vv. 41-59), where the Jews are taking initiative for dialogue (cf. vv. 41 and 52) through their 'complaint' and 'dispute'. Bartholomä (2010: 109; cf. Counet, 2000: 217) opines that, "A second, broader group of people to which Jesus turns in John's Gospel are either designated as 'the Jews', 'the Pharisees', or 'the crowd'". A bifurcation of the dialogue only on the basis of the change of titles ('the crowd' in v. 24 and 'the Jews' in v. 41) of the interlocutors may not be a right choice. The entire section has to be treated as a whole and the interlocutors are to be considered as different strata of people gathered.

¹⁴⁷⁴ The component parts of the dialogue (cf. vv. 25-58) maintain all the qualities of an *at a stretch* discourse. On the basis its function, the discourse section can be divided in the following ways: Schurmann (1958: 244-5) is content with two divisions, vv. 26-51, 52-58; Leon-Dufour (1958: 507-9) also recognises two sections, but makes them 35-47, 48-58 since they manifest a clear parallelism. Leenhardt (1959: 1-13; cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 85-6) proposes a highly ingenious division of three: the true Bread of heaven, 22-35; the true subjects and the true messianic King, 36-47; the departure and return of the Son of Man, 48-71. The entire section can be sub-divided as follows: *first*, *Conclusion and Introduction* narratorial (vv. 22-24); *second*, A *question-and-answer* dialogue between Jesus and the crowd (vv. 25-40); *third*, A dialogue of murmuring among the crowd (vv. 41-42); *fourth*, Jesus' response to the complaint (vv. 43-51); *fifth*, A dialogue of dispute among the crowd (v. 52); *sixth*, Jesus' response to the dispute (vv. 53-58); *seventh*, A narratorial inclusion with v. 24 (v. 59); *eighth*, Dialogue between Jesus and the disciples (vv. 60-65); *ninth*, A narratorial about the turning back of the disciples (v. 66); *tenth*, Jesus' dialogue with the Twelve (vv. 67-70); and *eleventh*, The final narratorial (v. 71).

¹⁴⁷⁵ Anderson (1997: 7) is of the opinion that, "John 6 must be considered a basically unitive composition, and it was probably added to a later edition of the gospel's composition".

8.2.3.1. Sub-Slot One (6:22-59)¹⁴⁷⁶

This narrative section (vv. 22-24) provides detailed information about the setting of the text and that further separates vv. 25-71 from the previous slots (i.e., vv. 1-15, 16-21).¹⁴⁷⁷ According to Moloney (1998: 205), “Jesus (vv. 22, 24), the disciples (vv. 22, 24), and ‘the people who remained on the other side’, who had eaten the bread (vv. 22, 23) are being brought together again”.¹⁴⁷⁸ The setting of vv. 25-71 is more problematic: *first*, the first sub-slot is narrated within a *Capernaum inclusion* (vv. 25-59) and cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 220-1);¹⁴⁷⁹ and *second*, the relational nature of the last sub-slots (vv. 60-66, 67-71) with the former sub-slot (vv. 25-59).¹⁴⁸⁰ The subject-matter of vv. 25-59 is integrally connected to the “Feeding of the Five Thousand” event; but cannot be considered as a single narrative event because of the change of the setting (cf. vv. 1-15, 16-21, 22-59). The setting of the narrative moves from one side of the Sea of Galilee to the other side (read 8.1).¹⁴⁸²

¹⁴⁷⁶ Keener (2003: 675-99) divides the section (i.e., vv. 22-71) into two parts: *first*, the Manna Discourse (vv. 22-24) and *second*, Response and Meaning (vv. 25-71). Lee’s (1994: 132-33) structuring also looks almost identical to Keener’s: Scene 1 (vv. 1-15); Scene 2 (vv. 16-21); Scene 3 (vv. 22-59); and Scene 4 (vv. 60-71).

¹⁴⁷⁷ The setting is temporal (as the conversation happens accidentally), geographical (as it describes the environmentally oriented surroundings of the two sides of the Sea of Galilee), and architectural (as the conversation happens in the synagogue setting).

¹⁴⁷⁸ Moloney (1998: 205; cf. Lee, 1994: 126-60) further says, “‘the people who remained on the other side’ (vv. 22, 24) are those who ‘ate the bread after the Lord had given thanks’ (v. 23), are aware that Jesus and the disciples had just been separated”. Brown (1966: 261) says, “The place where they found him was Capernaum (vv. 24, 59), on the north side of the lake, slightly west. The description in this verse seems to favour localising the multiplication on the east side of the lake rather than at Tiberias on the west shore; however, it is not impossible that ‘across the sea’ could cover a journey from Tiberias to Capernaum”. Köstenberger (2004: 206) discusses that, “The phrase ‘where they had eaten the bread’ (6:23) resumes the feeding narrative of 6:1-14. The sequence of the ensuing events can be constructed, albeit with some difficulty. Apparently, the crowd, which had been fed on ‘the other side’ (6:1), had remained there during the feeding (6:16-24). Next, ‘some boats from Tiberias’ ended up where the crowd was. Finally, the multitude and the people who had been fed decided to head back to Capernaum across the northern quarter of the lake”.

¹⁴⁷⁹ Scholars like Kysar (1986: 96; cf. Keener, 2003: 675) think that 6:35-50 and 6:51-59 are duplicates from the same tradition. Cf. Carson, 1991: 282-3; Blomberg, 2001: 122; Barrett, 1978: 285; Painter, 1993: 278; Dodd, 1960: 100.

¹⁴⁸⁰ Tiberias (6:23) was one of two Hellenistic cities in Galilee and was perhaps ten miles (a few hours’ walk) from Capernaum; Herod Antipas had it built as a royal administrative city. Stibbe (1993: 87; cf. Ryken, 1979: 8) says that, “In John 6, we see the protagonist in three settings: the mountain (6:3-15), the sea (6:16-21), and the land (6:59). In literature, these three settings are used as archetypes. The mountain top (like the fertile valley or the sea) is an archetype of ideal heavenly experience. The sea is a chthonic (underworldly) archetype; it is associated with monsters, with evil. The synagogue (a sacred building) is an archetype of humanity’s quest for meaning. Newman and Nida, 1980: 188-90; Keener, 2003: 675; Barrett, 1978: 285; Blomberg, 2001: 122; Painter, 1993: 278; Carson, 1991: 282-3. Beasley-Murray (1987: 87) says that, “The setting of the chapter is variously indicated as ‘the east side of the Sea of Galilee/Tiberias’, vv. 3 and 15; the hill country (*τὸ ὄρος*), but close to the lake, v. 15; Capernaum, vv. 24 and 59; and more specifically the synagogue in Capernaum, v. 59”.

¹⁴⁸¹ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 219) says, “This lengthy discourse (vv. 26-59)—which can also be called a dialogue—in the synagogue at Capernaum (v. 59) is one of the most controversial topics in the study of the Gospel”.

¹⁴⁸² The movement of Jesus from the one side of the sea to the other is rhetorical as it communicates certain things to the reader, with regard to his/her faith and understanding. Jesus’ action of ‘breaking the bread’ on the one side (vv. 1-15) and his exposition about the ‘bread from heaven’ on the other side (vv. 25-59) are persuasive.

The section vv. 25b to 29 presents two questions by the crowd (vv. 25b, 28b) and two responses of Jesus (vv. 26b-27, 29b) in the following order:¹⁴⁸³ *first*, the crowd's question to Jesus (v. 25b);¹⁴⁸⁴ *second*, Jesus' response beginning with the usual 'Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν formula (vv. 26-27; cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 254; Namita, 2000: 125);¹⁴⁸⁵ *third*, a second question of the crowd concerning the requirement for doing the works of God (v. 28; cf. Smith, 1999: 152; Kurichianil, 2010: 34-6); and *fourth*, Jesus' clarification about the need to believe in him (v. 29; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 39).¹⁴⁸⁶ At the outset, Jesus is again addressed as "Rabbi" (cf. 1:38b, 49; 3:2; 4:31).¹⁴⁸⁷ The Johannine trend of diverting the topic of discussion from 'casual' to 'spiritual' is obvious at the initial stage of the dialogue.¹⁴⁸⁸ While the crowd approaches Jesus with a casual question (i.e., 'Ραββί, πότε ὠδε γέγονας; v. 25), Jesus responds by telling them about the status of their minds (v. 26)¹⁴⁸⁹ and continues the discussion in his own way (cf. v. 27; cf. Smith, 1999: 151-2).¹⁴⁹⁰ The words of Jesus, i.e., 'Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, are revelatory as he reveals the intention behind the crowd's search for him (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 35), and also, as he reveals his authenticity as a good teacher.¹⁴⁹¹ He makes it plain that their search is not because they saw signs (ζητεῖτέ με οὐχ ὅτι εἶδετε σημεῖα) but because they ate the loaves (ἀλλ' ὅτι ἐφάγετε ἐκ τῶν ἄρτων καὶ ἐχορτάσθητε, v. 26).¹⁴⁹² The followers, here, are critiqued as people prone to seek the

narrator's indication about the same audience in both cases is intentional as the story develops (i.e., from one action to a discourse) sequentially before the reader.

¹⁴⁸³ Painter (1993: 254) states that, "In the dialogue between Jesus and the crowd (6:22-35) there are four sayings of the crowd to Jesus (6:25, 28, 30, 34) and four *responses* by Jesus to the crowd (6:26, 29, 32, 35). This makes clear the initiative of the crowd and the responsive nature of Jesus' sayings".

¹⁴⁸⁴ Witherington (1995: 155) says, "The dialogue with the crowd begins with a question about the time of Jesus' arrival at Capernaum. Jesus does not respond to their spoken question, but rather to what he knows is on their heart."

¹⁴⁸⁵ For more details about the 'being' and 'becoming' aspects in the Greco-Roman world and its influence on the Johannine literature, refer to Kermode, 1986: 3-16. The 'becoming' nature of the crowd is vividly portrayed by saying, 'Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ζητεῖτέ με οὐχ ὅτι εἶδετε σημεῖα, ἀλλ' ὅτι ἐφάγετε ἐκ τῶν ἄρτων καὶ ἐχορτάσθητε (i.e., "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves").

¹⁴⁸⁶ Keener (2003: 677) states that, "Jewish tradition never isolated works from faith. Yet in contrast to their tradition (in which faith was often one work among many), Jesus defines the work essential for eternal life as faith in him (6:29); this proves to be the one work they are willing to do (6:30; cf. 6:41, 52, 66)". Cf. Painter, 1993: 270; Barrett, 1978: 285-8; Blomberg, 2001: 123; Dodd, 1960: 335-7; Carson, 1991: 283-5.

¹⁴⁸⁷ Jesus' role as a teacher is affirmed through this addressing at the outset of this discourse.

¹⁴⁸⁸ The crowd comes with 'casual' or 'physical' or 'from below' concerns and Jesus confronts them with 'spiritual' or 'from above' concerns.

¹⁴⁸⁹ Wallace (1996: 405) points out about the usage of 'categorical plural' in v. 26. He says, "The reason that the plural is used is that it more easily yields itself to a *generic* notion: The force of this usage, it seems, is to focus more on the *action* than on the actor. This is not to say that the actor is unimportant; rather, the actor is important only in generic sense: 'This is the kind of person who does this'".

¹⁴⁹⁰ Jesus' responses from a 'spiritual' and 'from above' point of view intend to correct his interlocutors toward a transformed lifestyle. Witherington (1995: 155) says, "John 6:27 provides us with another Son of Man saying. It is a Son of Man that Jesus provides the more enduring food, and it is on the Son of Man that God has set his seal—a probable allusion to the discussion in John 1:32, and perhaps 1:51 and 3:13 as well".

¹⁴⁹¹ Here Jesus reveals the hidden agenda of his followers.

¹⁴⁹² Keener (2003: 676) says that, "Their questions show that they repeatedly understand Jesus on a merely natural level because their quest is for merely natural bread (6:26). That is, they ignore the miracles' value as 'signs' pointing to Jesus' identity, wanting instead free food (6:26)". Cf. Carson, 1991: 283; Barrett, 1978: 286; Newman and Nida, 1980: 193; Blomberg, 2001: 122-3; Dodd, 1960: 335-7; Painter, 1993: 269.

needs of their common lives (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 223-4). Jesus also distinguishes between the physical food that they seek after (ἐργάζεσθε μὴ τὴν βρώσιν τὴν ἀπολλυμένην) and that which endures for eternal life (τὴν βρώσιν τὴν μένουσαν εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον).¹⁴⁹³ The crowd's question (Τί ποιῶμεν ἵνα ἐργαζώμεθα τὰ ἔργα τοῦ θεοῦ;) is derived from Jesus' response (cf. v. 27; cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 254).¹⁴⁹⁴ He responds to them by saying that 'the work is 'believing in him whom God has sent' (Τοῦτό ἐστιν τὸ ἔργον τοῦ θεοῦ, ἵνα πιστεύητε ἀπέστειλεν ἐκεῖνος, v. 29; cf. Witherington, 1995: 155; Namita, 2000: 125).¹⁴⁹⁵ Thus Jesus reveals the unknowing condition of his audience by both explicit and implicit expressions (v. 29; see 54).¹⁴⁹⁶

John 6:22-59	Overview
v.22: Τῇ ἐπαύριον ὁ ὄχλος ὁ ἐστηκὼς πέραν τῆς θαλάσσης εἶδον ὅτι πλοιάριον ἄλλο οὐκ ἦν ἐκεῖ εἰ μὴ ἓν καὶ ὅτι οὐ συνεισῆλθεν τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς τὸ πλοῖον ἀλλὰ μόνοι οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἀπῆλθον.	(1) The dialogue in vv. 25-58 is comprised of twelve utterances (vv. 25, 27, 28b, 29, 31, 32b-33, 35b-40, 42b-51, 52b, 53).
v.23: ἄλλα ἦλθεν πλοιά[ρια] ἐκ Τιβεριάδος ἐγγὺς τοῦ τόπου ὅπου ἔφαγον τὸν ἄρτον εὐχαριστήσαντος τοῦ κυρίου.	
v.24: ὅτε οὖν εἶδεν ὁ ὄχλος ὅτι Ἰησοῦς οὐκ ἔστιν ἐκεῖ οὐδὲ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ, ἐνέβησαν αὐτοῖς εἰς τὰ πλοιάρια καὶ ἦλθον εἰς Καφαρναοὺμ ζητοῦντες τὸν Ἰησοῦν.	
v.25: καὶ εὐρόντες αὐτὸν πέραν τῆς θαλάσσης εἶπον αὐτῷ, 'Ραββί, πότε ὦδε γέγονας;	
v.26: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν, 'Ὁμῶν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ζητεῖτέ με οὐχ ὅτι εἴδετε σημεῖα, ἀλλ' ὅτι ἐφάγετε ἐκ τῶν ἄρτων καὶ ἐχορτάσθητε.	out of the text of this utterance you are of the crowd/Jews.
v.27: ἐργάζεσθε μὴ τὴν βρώσιν τὴν ἀπολλυμένην ἀλλὰ τὴν βρώσιν τὴν μένουσαν εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον, ἣν ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ὑμῖν δώσει· τοῦτον γὰρ ὁ πατὴρ ἐσφράγισεν ὁ θεός.	25b, 28b, 31, 34b, 42b, 51, 52b, 53
v.28: εἶπον οὖν πρὸς αὐτόν, Τί ποιῶμεν ἵνα ἐργαζώμεθα τὰ ἔργα τοῦ θεοῦ;	
v.29: ἀπεκρίθη [ὁ] Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, Τοῦτό ἐστιν τὸ ἔργον τοῦ θεοῦ, ἵνα πιστεύητε εἰς τὸν ἀπέστειλεν ἐκεῖνος.	
v.30: εἶπον οὖν αὐτῷ, Τί οὖν ποιεῖς σὺ σημεῖον, ἵνα ἴδωμεν καὶ πιστεύσωμέν σοι; τί ἐργάζῃ;	six are of Jesus' response (vv. 26b-27, 29, 33, 35b-40, 53b-58);
v.31: οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν τὸ μάνα ἔφαγον ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, καθὼς ἐστιν γεγραμμένον, 'Ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς φαγεῖν.	
v.32: εἶπεν οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, 'Ὁμῶν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, οὐ Μωϋσὴς δέδωκεν ὑμῖν τὸν ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, ἀλλ' ὁ πατὴρ μου δίδωσιν ὑμῖν τὸν ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ τὸν ἀληθινόν.	(2) The six questions of the crowd/Jews and six responses of Jesus develop the theme of working the works of God (6:28), which is probably to be understood in the sense of this is redefined by Jesus in terms of believing in the one sent by God, 6:29". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 286-7; D 335-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 194; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 91; Carson, 1991: 284-5.
v.33: ὁ γὰρ ἄρτος τοῦ θεοῦ ἐστιν ὁ καταβαίνων ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καὶ ζωὴν διδοὺς τῷ κόσμῳ.	
v.34: Εἶπον οὖν πρὸς αὐτόν, Κύριε, πάντοτε δὸς ἡμῖν τὸν ἄρτον τοῦτον.	
vv.35-40: εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἐγὼ εἰμὶ ὁ ἄρτος τῆς ζωῆς· ὁ ἐρχόμενος πρὸς ἐμὲ οὐ μὴ πεινῶσῃ, καὶ ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ μὴ διψήσῃ πώποτε . . . τοῦτο γὰρ ἐστιν τὸ θέλημα	

¹⁴⁹³ Which the Son of Man, on whom God the Father has set his seal, provides (cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 114).

¹⁴⁹⁴ Painter (1993: 270) is of the view that, "The theme of working (6:27) is thematically related to linguistically linked to working the works of God (6:28), which is probably to be understood in the sense of this is redefined by Jesus in terms of believing in the one sent by God, 6:29". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 286-7; D 335-7; Newman and Nida, 1980: 194; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 91; Carson, 1991: 284-5.

¹⁴⁹⁵ Neyrey (2007: 121) says that, "... he picks up their request to know what it is to 'do the works of God' and answers it with the same type of material that they have just ignored in 6:27-28, namely acknowledgement of the Son of Man, who is 'sealed' by God and 'whom He has sent'". Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 195; Barrett, 1978: 287-8; Carson, 1991: 285; Dodd, 1960: 335-7.

¹⁴⁹⁶ While discussing with the crowd/Jews, Jesus intends to reveal their unknowing and misunderstanding nature.

<p>τοῦ πατρὸς μου, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ θεωρῶν τὸν υἱὸν καὶ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον, καὶ ἀναστήσῃ αὐτὸν ἐγὼ [ἐν] τῇ ἑσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ.</p> <p>v.41: Ἐγγύζουσιν οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι περὶ αὐτοῦ ὅτι εἶπεν, Ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ ἄρτος ὁ καταβάς ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ,</p> <p>v.42: καὶ ἔλεγον, Οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν Ἰησοῦς ὁ υἱὸς Ἰωσήφ, οὗ ἡμεῖς οἶδαμεν τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὴν μητέρα; πῶς νῦν λέγει ὅτι Ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καταβέβηκα;</p> <p>vv.43-51: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, Μὴ γογγύζετε μετ' ἀλλήλων . . . ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ ἄρτος ὁ ζῶν ὁ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καταβάς· ἂν τις φάγῃ ἐκ τούτου τοῦ ἄρτου ζήσκει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, καὶ ὁ ἄρτος δὲ ὃν ἐγὼ δώσω ἡ σὰρξ μου ἐστὶν ὑπὲρ τῆς τοῦ κόσμου ζωῆς.</p> <p>v.52: Ἐμάχοντο οὖν πρὸς ἀλλήλους οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι λέγοντες, Πῶς δύναται οὗτος ἡμῖν δοῦναι τὴν σάρκα [αὐτοῦ] φαγεῖν;</p> <p>vv.53-58: εἶπεν οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἂν μὴ φάγητε τὴν σάρκα τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου καὶ πίνητε αὐτοῦ τὸ αἷμα, οὐκ ἔχετε ζωὴν ἐν ἑαυτοῖς . . . οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ ἄρτος ὁ ἐκ οὐρανοῦ καταβάς, οὗ καθὼς ἔφαγον οἱ πατέρες καὶ ἀπέθανον· ὁ τρώγων τοῦτον τὸν ἄρτον ζήσκει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.</p> <p>v.59: Ταῦτα εἶπεν ἐν συναγωγῇ διδασκῶν ἐν Καφαρναούμ.</p>	<p>tri-tier fashion (vv. 25-29, 30-40, 41-48);</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the slot are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 22-25a, 41, 59) and <i>formula narratives</i> (vv. 25a, 26a, 28a, 29a, 30a, 32a, 34a, 35a, 42a, 43a, 52a, 53a).</p>
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Table 54: The dialogue of 6:22-59 within the narratorial framework

The section in vv. 30-40 again is formatted by two questions from the crowd (vv. 30-31, 34) and two responses from Jesus (vv. 32-33, 35-40; cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 109-10).¹⁴⁹⁷ In v. 30, the crowd raises two queries (i.e., τί οὖν ποιεῖς σὺ σημεῖον, ἵνα ἴδωμεν καὶ πιστεύσωμέν σοι; τί ἐργάζῃ;) using scriptural evidences.¹⁴⁹⁸ They stated, “our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness” (οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν τὸ μάννα ἔφαγον ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, cf. v. 31; cf. Wallace, 1996: 649; Hylén, 2005: 43-6). The Jewish tendency of “sign-seeking” (cf. v. 30) is severely criticised by Jesus through another Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν formula saying (vv. 32-33; cf. Smith, 1999: 152).¹⁴⁹⁹ At the outset of the dialogue, Jesus makes it clear that performing the works of God means believing in him (vv. 28-29) and thus draws the attention of his interlocutors toward himself (cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 254-5; Namita, 2000: 125).¹⁵⁰⁰ When his interlocutors quote from the OT and defend their position (v. 31b: Exo 16:4; Num 11:8; Neh 9:15; Psalm 78:24-25), Jesus quotes Isa 54:13 (cf. v. 45) in order to counter their argument (cf. Witherington, 1995: 156; Gench, 2007: 42-3).¹⁵⁰¹ Culpepper (1983: 91-2; Watson, 2013: 304-15) is of the view that, “The evangelist shows how the Jews’

¹⁴⁹⁷ Painter (1997: 75) is of the opinion that, “It is notable that in the narrative description: in 6:22-35 there are two references to the crowd (6:22, 24); in 6:41-59 there are two references to the Jews (6:41, 52); in 6:60-66 there are two to the disciples (6:60, 66); and in 6:67-71 there are two references to the Twelve (6:67, 71). This balance does not seem to be accidental”.

¹⁴⁹⁸ Though the response of the crowd in v. 34 is not a question, it has all the features of a question. The following trends are important to notify: *first*, the general trend of the crowd to raise questions one after another and Jesus’ subsequent responses; and *second*, Jesus’ response in vv. 35-40 is similar to answering a question. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 91-2; Carson, 1991: 285-95; Dodd, 1960: 335-7; Blomberg, 2001: 122-6; Barrett, 1978: 288-98.

¹⁴⁹⁹ Bartholomä (2010: 121) observes that, “The following designations of Jesus as the true ‘bread of God’ and as ‘the one who comes down from heaven’ in John 6:33a is semantically unparalleled in the synoptics”. Wallace (1996: 582) mentions about the usage of ‘perfect of allegory’ in 6:32, δέδωκεν. He (1996: 581-2) says that, “The perfect tense can be used to refer to an OT event in such a way that the event is viewed in terms of its allegorical or applicational value. This usage is rare, though the author of Hebrews is particularly fond of it”.

¹⁵⁰⁰ In John’s narrative, the main emphasis is upon the reaction of *the Jews* to the teaching in which Jesus unfolded the significance of his mighty work.

¹⁵⁰¹ Smalley (1978: 110; cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 110-2; Menken, 1996: 47-65, 67-77) sees the *manna* of chap. 6 parallel to Exo 16:4. See Borgen, 1965: 143-5; Blomberg, 2001: 122-6; Painter, 1993: 278-80; Dodd, 1960: 335-40.

refusal to believe reveals that in fact they have not understood the Torah, Moses, or the Father. The misunderstanding motif in John extends equally to Jesus' words and the Torah".¹⁵⁰² This makes it explicit that his Father provides the true bread from heaven (v. 32b) and Jesus is describing the 'bread from heaven' (v. 33; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 42-3; Richardson, 1987/1997: 228).¹⁵⁰³ The crowd's response in v. 34 is not fashioned in the form of a question (Κύριε, πάντοτε δὸς ἡμῖν τὸν ἄρτον τοῦτον); but has the force of a question.¹⁵⁰⁴ Jesus' response in vv. 35-40 begins with a self-revelatory statement, Ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ ἄρτος τῆς ζωῆς (v. 35; cf. Maritz and Van Belle, 2006: 333-52; Gench, 2007: 42-3),¹⁵⁰⁵ and that further establishes his eternal relationship with the Father (cf. vv. 35-40; cf. Ball, 1996: 77-9; Kermode, 1987: 4). He reveals that those who come to him will never be hungry (v. 35b; cf. 4:34) and those who believe in him will never be thirsty (v. 35b; cf. 4:10; see Bultmann, 1971: 219).¹⁵⁰⁷ Jesus then discloses, *first*, the crowd's unbelieving nature (v. 36), *second*, the eternal guarantee of life for those believing (v. 37; cf. Namita, 2000: 125; Witherington, 1995: 158),¹⁵⁰⁸ *third*, his mission as one from above (v. 38), *fourth*, the Father's will to protect all those who come to him (v. 39) and *fifth*, the connection between believing and eternal life (cf. Smith, 1999: 125; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 45-8). Thus the dialogue reveals the contrasting world-views of Jesus and the crowd (v. 40; see Table 54).¹⁵¹⁰

¹⁵⁰² Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 129) further say that, "While in chap. 4 the issue was water that either quenches thirst or permanently relieves thirst, here the issue is food that perishes or that endures to eternal life". Smith (1999: 125) says that, "The crowd might have here countered, 'Of course, it was not Moses but God who gave the manna from heaven'. At most, Moses gave directions, and his role was important. The crucial point, however, is that the wilderness manna is not the true bread from heaven". For a most detailed study about Moses in the NT see Lierman, 2004.

¹⁵⁰³ Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 129; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 40-2) say that, "As usual, questions are put to him and he responds with an explanatory monologue. The dialogue here closely parallels the one in chap. 4" (1996: 274) sees an article-substantive-καὶ-substantive (TSKS) connection in v. 33. See here: ὁ+καταβαίνων+δίδου. He (1996: 270) says that, "In Greek, when two nouns are connected by καὶ and the article precedes the first noun, there is close connection between the two. That connection always indicates at least some sort of relationship. On a higher level, it may connote *equality*". Cf. Dodd, 1960: 335-7; Barrett, 1978: 290-1; Blomberg, 2001: 124; Carson, 1991: 287; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 91-2. See the text: ὁ γὰρ ἄρτος τοῦ θεοῦ ἐστίν ὁ καταβαίνων ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ διδοὺς τῷ κόσμῳ (v. 33).

¹⁵⁰⁴ Jesus' response in vv. 35-40 is fashioned in the form of an answer to a question (cf. vv. 26-27, 29, 32-33).

¹⁵⁰⁵ Robertson (1932: 107; cf. Maritz and Van Belle, 2006: 333-52) states that, "He is the bread of life in two senses: he has life in himself, the living bread (51), and it gives life to others like the water of life, the tree of life". See Dodd, 1960: 337-8; Blomberg, 2001: 124; Carson, 1991: 288-9; Newman and Nida, 1980: 198; Barrett, 1978: 291-2.

¹⁵⁰⁶ Lee (1994: 135-6; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 41; Witherington, 1995: 156-7) says that, "Jesus' self-revelation in the Ἐγὼ εἰμι saying of v. 35 is the narrative and theological centre of the scene, and indeed of the entire chapter". Gench (2007: 43) opines that, "By identifying himself as 'the bread of life' comes down from heaven, Jesus reveals himself to be the gift of God and the basis for all life".

¹⁵⁰⁷ Some of these expressions are very similar to the ones already narrated in chap. 4.

¹⁵⁰⁸ Wallace (1996: 468-9) observes the use of 'emphatic negation subjunctive' in v. 37. He (1996: 468) says that, "Emphatic negation is indicated by οὐ μὴ plus the aorist subjunctive or, less frequently, οὐ μὴ plus the present subjunctive (e.g., Matthew 26:35; Mark 13:31; John 4:14; 6:35). This is the strongest way to negate something in Greek".

¹⁵⁰⁹ See the substantival use in v. 39. Wallace (1996: 621) says that, "This is an instance of a substantival use of the genitive, functioning as a subjective gen. ('this is what the one who sent me wills')".

¹⁵¹⁰ Kysar (1997: 179) says that, "... an essentially christological passage has impact on the issue of faith. Christ's identity cannot stand in isolation from the human response to claims made for Christ's identity. Not accidentally does John weave the thread of faith into the fabric of Jesus' identity, for explication of that identity is whole cloth on which the faith is built".

In vv. 41-59, another pair of questions arises from the Jews (vv. 42 and 52) and a pair corresponding responses by Jesus (vv. 43-51 and 53-58) are reported (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 231-44; Bartholomä, 2010: 109-10). Painter (1993: 278) is of the view that, “6:41-59 reflects the struggle between the Johannine Christians and the synagogue. For this context ‘the Jews’ is the appropriate term of reference. They do not represent the Galilean crowd which had followed and subsequently come seeking Jesus. They are the Jews of the synagogue”. In v. 41, the narrator quotes a saying of Jesus (i.e., Ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ ἄρτος ὁ καταβάς ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, cf. vv. 35 and 38) as a reason for the Jewish grumbling (ἐγόγγυζον) among themselves (cf. Ball, 1996: 77-9; Kysar, 1997: 169).¹⁵¹¹ The Jews grumble among themselves and pose a question about the identity of Jesus (v. 42a; Οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν Ἰησοῦς ὁ υἱὸς Ἰωσήφ, οὗ ἡμεῖς οἴδαμεν τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὴν μητέρα; cf. Sproston, 1985: 77-97). They also advance a question by quoting Jesus’ own utterance in v. 42b (Ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καταβέβηκα). In his response to the Jews in vv. 43-51, Jesus emphasises his relationship with the Father (cf. Smith, 1999: 156-7; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 50-7).¹⁵¹²

Crowds’/Jews’ Questions	Jesus’ Answers
v. 25b (4 words)	vv. 26-27 (46 words)
v. 28 (8 words)	v. 29 (12 words)
vv. 30-31 (31 words)	vv. 32-33 (42 words)
v. 34 (7 words)	vv. 35-40 (121 words)
v. 42 (23 words)	vv. 43-51 (144 words)
v. 52 (9 words)	vv. 53-58 (115 words)
Total: 82 words	Total: 480 words¹⁵¹³

Table 55: The word count of the utterances of Jesus and the Jews in 6:22-59

Jesus makes his points again clear by stating the following: people are brought to him by the Father (v. 44),¹⁵¹⁴ those who have heard and learned from the Father come to him (v. 45), only he has seen the Father (v. 46),¹⁵¹⁵ and Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν statement: those who believe have eternal life and that he is the bread of life (vv. 47-48). He goes on to make a comparison between the forefathers who ate the bread and eventually died versus those who eat the bread from heaven and live (vv. 49-50), and finally declares that his flesh is the living bread (v. 51; cf. Bartholomä,

inclusion of belief in that which transcends human experience”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 294-5; Blomberg, 2001: 125; Dodd, 1960: 337-8; Carson, 1991: 288-92; Newman and Nida, 1980: 201; Painter, 1993: 271-7.

¹⁵¹¹ Culpepper (1983: 92; cf. Talbert, 1992: 137; Gench, 2007: 41) points out that, “At first the ‘Jews’ murmur’ (6:41). Later the narrator tells us they quarrel with one another (6:52). They ask the question which becomes typical of earthly, literal, superficial understanding: ‘how?’” See 3:4, 9; 4:9; 6:42, 52; 7:15; 8:33; 9:10, 15, 16, 19, 21, 26; 12:34; 15:5. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 295; Dodd, 1960: 337-8; Painter, 1993: 279; Blomberg, 2001: 125.

¹⁵¹² Maritz and Van Belle (2006: 340) say that, “The bread from the dessert cannot prevent death (6:49-50, 58), while the bread from heaven that the Father gives, gives life (6:33, 35, 50). To receive the vitality of this bread, this bread must be eaten (6:50, 51, 58)”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 295-8; Newman and Nida, 1980: 203-6; Carson, 1991: 293-5; Dodd, 1960: 337-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 93-4; Blomberg, 2001: 125-6.

¹⁵¹³ Bartholomä (2010: 109) says that, “The Bread of Life Discourse contains 480 words of Jesus, which makes it the fourth longest cohesive speech in the Gospel of John”.

¹⁵¹⁴ The genitive of agency in v. 45 indicates the personal agent (here, God) by whom the action in view is accomplished (cf. Wallace, 1996: 126).

¹⁵¹⁵ Witherington (1995: 159; cf. Namita, 2000: 125) states that, “At v. 46 Jesus makes the claim that he has seen God, implying his origins in heaven”.

2010: 127; Wallace, 1996: 347; see Table 54).¹⁵¹⁶ The final question of the crowd and response are reported in vv. 52-58 (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 239-44).¹⁵¹⁷ The crowd begins among themselves by raising another question, Πῶς δύναται οὗτος ἡμῖν δοῦναι τὴν [αὐτοῦ] φαγεῖν; (v. 52b; cf. Menken, 1997: 183-204; Hakola, 2005: 158-76). In vv. 53-54 begins another Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν declaration and speaks in figurative language about the glorious Son of Man (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 224; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 235).¹⁵¹⁸ He points out that eternal life is assured to people only by way of eating the flesh and drinking the blood of the Son of Man (cf. Barrett, 1982: 37-49, 84-97; Lindars, 1992: 33-50, 153-66).¹⁵¹⁹ His 'abiding language delineates the relational aspects among the Father, Son and the believer (vv. 56-57; cf. Barrett, 1999: 159; Robertson, 1932: 112-3). Thus the antithetical nature of the dialogue is further reinforced as the protagonist and his interlocutors discuss their concerns from two diverse world views (cf. Table 55).¹⁵²⁰

The form of the dialogue (i.e., vv. 25b-58)¹⁵²¹ can be assessed on the basis of the dynamisms within the text (cf. Chandler, 2002/2007: 189).¹⁵²² An extended *inclusion* is present between v. 24 and v. 59 by placing the name Capernaum at the beginning and end of the dialogue and by establishing the idea *from separation to reunion* (cf. vv. 22-24; cf. Quast, 1996: 195).

¹⁵¹⁶ Bultmann (1971: 221) opines that, "The reference to faith here as 'coming to Jesus' gives the theme of its organic place within the dialogue, and vv. 36-40 would doubtless most appropriately follow on vv. 41-44." and Van Belle (2006: 339) say that, "The identification of Jesus with the bread is defined more precisely: τὸ τοῦ ζωῆς (τῆς ζωῆς 6:35, 48) and twice with participles (ὁ ἄρτος ὁ καταβάς ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ 6:41, 51 preceded with ὁ ζῶν)". Cf. Painter, 1993: 278-80; Newman and Nida, 1980: 206; Blomberg, 2001: 125-6; Barrett, 1978: 297-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 93-4; Dodd, 1960: 337-8.

¹⁵¹⁷ Lee (1994: 129-30) sees a problem within the internal structure of John 6, especially by raising the question of vv. 52-59 (or 51b/c-58) belong in the discourse".

¹⁵¹⁸ He declares that he is the bread of life and his peculiarity in relation to the manna. Lee (1994: 127) says the theme of John 6 is that Jesus is the true bread from heaven who offers life through his self-giving. For belief to be found only in 'feeding' on him".

¹⁵¹⁹ Keener (2003: 690; cf. Menken, 1997: 183-204; Counet, 2000: 203-38; Barrett, 1982: 37-49) says that in the context of the entire gospel, John's Eucharistic language . . . applies directly to Jesus' death; the way one enters through faith and the Spirit (6:27-29, 35, 63). John's words invite his audience to look to Christ's death and not merely those symbols which point to his death". Cf. Painter, 1993: 278-80; Dodd, 1960: 339-40.

¹⁵²⁰ The table better explains the way Jesus' responses control the situation while his interlocutors' questions are peripheral. While the crowds/Jews use 82 words, Jesus uses 480 words all through the conversation. Borg (1994: 100; cf. Beutler, 1997: 122-7) opines about the development of the slot as follows: "This section, John 6, consists of a dialogue between 'they', that is, the crowd (vv. 28, 30, 34) and Jesus (vv. 29, 32, 35) which includes reactions among the Jews (vv. 41, 52) followed by comments and answers given by Jesus (vv. 43, 53)". Bultmann (2010: 109) observes that, "The 911 words included in these two discourses (i.e., 6:22-59 and 8:12-59) comprise 14 percent of all dominical words reported in the Fourth Gospel (about 6,500). They amount to 19.4 percent of Jesus' words in the extended discourses and dialogues (about 4,700) and to more than a third of those addressed to the Jewish public (37.3 percent of about 2,450)".

¹⁵²¹ Meeks (1972: 58-9; cf. Namita, 2000: 124-5) outlines the discourse progression of the first sub-slot of the dialogue as follows: *first*, "Work for the food that remains for eternal life, which the Son of Man gives" (vv. 27, 51); *second*, "Work" means "believe" in the one whom God has sent (v. 29; cf. 36-40; 45-47); *third*, the "food" that the Son of Man gives is "bread which descends from heaven" (vv. 31-33, which God, not Moses, gives); *fourth*, that bread is the Son of Man himself, for he is ὁ καταβάς ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ--as we learned in chap. 3 (vv. 35, 38, 44); and *fifth*, the "murmuring" of the Jews produce an even more pointed statement: the bread of life is the very flesh of the Son of Man (vv. 51b-58).

¹⁵²² For the specific features of Johannine dialogues, refer to Hartenstein, 2007: 214-7; Zink, 1996: 125-40.

53).¹⁵²³ The extended narrative places the third dialogic slot (i.e., vv. 22-71) in closer affinity with the previous sign slots (vv. 1-15, 16-21).¹⁵²⁴ In the gospel, bringing together and reuniting are important aspects for developing dialogic interactions. Dodd (1960: 333-45; cf. Elam, 1980: 135-207) sees the entire narrative from a dramatic point of view.¹⁵²⁵ The 'entry' and 'exit' of the characters on stage are pictured with dramatic and dialogic intentions.¹⁵²⁶ The dramatic techniques used in the episode, like the shattering of Moses-centeredness (v. 32; cf. Hylan, 2005: 43-52),¹⁵²⁷ calling the attention of the crowd to the protagonist (vv. 35-40) and believing-unbelieving conflict (v. 28-29, 36, 40) generate suspense in the reader (cf. Kurichianil, 2010: 34-6). The vertical focus (ὁ καταβαίνων ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ; vv. 33, 38, 41, 42, 50, 51, 58) of the narrative reveals the unusual nature of the dialogue.¹⁵²⁸ The dialogue in vv. 25-59 distinguishes a sharp conflict between two worldviews, 'the world from above' and 'the world from below' (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 228). The attempt of Jesus' interlocutors to unveil his human origin does not achieve any result (vv. 41-42). Bailey and Broek (1992: 172) comment that, "The speech in John reveals a speaker explicitly aware of his divine nature and mission . . . that this discourse, cast as the revelatory speech of Jesus as divine Son, reflects the confessional and homiletical language of the Johannine community".¹⁵²⁹ The first part of the discourse (vv. 32-48) is a midrashic paraphrase on the words of scripture (i.e., ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς).¹⁵³⁰ The latter part (vv. 49-58) continues to use expressions similar to the previous one, but denotes attention to a midrashic commentary particularly on the word φαγεῖν (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 55; Van der Watt, 2007b, 186-200).¹⁵³¹ The

¹⁵²³ The expression ἦλθον εἰς Καφαρναούμ ζητοῦντες τὸν Ἰησοῦν (v. 24) is strategically positioned in order to narrate the idea *from separation to reunion*.

¹⁵²⁴ The operation or performance of 6:22-71 is peculiar in several respects. It is mostly a discourse or a speech of Jesus arranged in the form of a tri-tier dialogue. In v. 22-24 the narrator describes about their entry in the first sub-slot. Though there is no mention about their exit, the abrupt closing of the first sub-slot and the beginning of the next (vv. 59, 60) can mean the dramatic existence of the characters. While the second sub-slot ends with an exit of the characters in v. 66, the third sub-slot begins suddenly (v. 67).

¹⁵²⁵ For ideas about the dramatic development of 6:25-59, refer to Brant, 2004: 149-58. Also see Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Windisch, 1993: 25-64; Muilenburg, 1993: 65-76; Macrae, 1993: 103-13.

¹⁵²⁶ While talking about Johannine dialogues, Brant (2004: 149-50; cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24) opines that, "Various verbal gestures, the broad speech patterns that organise and dramatise the conflict, and short, discreet speech-acts fit together to form the dialogues of the gospel. Besides following the development of ideas within the dialogues, one can follow the action constituted by the speech: the thrust of an offensive line and the parry of defensive reply, displays of vulnerability and control, and the gestures that signify engagement and those that indicate retreat".

¹⁵²⁷ Cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 130-1; Wead, 1970: 84; Köstenberger, 2004: 208-12. According to Glasson (1963: 45), "The sixth chapter of John supplies one of the clearest examples of the importance of the wilderness imagery, and it need not detain us long. After the feeding of the five thousand we are in effect told that the people recognised in Jesus the second Moses".

¹⁵²⁸ Bailey and Broek (1992: 172) say that, "Johannine discourse sections display a more sustained and unified character, presenting extended dialogues and monologues as literary wholes".

¹⁵²⁹ Wead (1970: 83) points out that, "The irony of the question regarding the parents of Jesus points us to the heavenly origin". Cf. Morris, 1995: 328; Carson, 1991: 292; Moloney, 1998: 217-9; Barrett, 1978: 295.

¹⁵³⁰ In v. 51, Jesus again claims that he is the living bread that came down from heaven (cf. vv. 35, 48, 50). This is linguistically emphatic and the response of the crowd/Jews advances the process of dialogue. This we also see in ancient dialogues, especially of Plato, on the rhetorical technique of *dialogia* and the role of the interlocutors (cf. Press, 2007).

¹⁵³¹ The interpretation that follows regards the discourse as a homiletic midrash on a text provided to Jesus by his interlocutors in v. 31 (i.e., ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς φαγεῖν). Cf. Moloney, 1998: 207; Borgen, 1965: 28-57; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 135-6. Anderson (1996: 133) views 6:5-58 as an apologetical piece which is meant to counter the emerging institutional sacramentalism of the mainstream church (cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 135-6). Thus the specific portrayal of the narrative reveals a phenomenon of linguistic hybridity.

discourse, thus, is formed by a repeated play of words. The narrator of the episode takes initiative to prove the vertical focus of the dialogue¹⁵³² and at the same time he sustains horizontal features.

The repeated show of crowd's εἶπον (vv. 25, 28, 30, 34) and Jesus' εἶπεν (vv. 26, 29, 31) reveals the expansive dialogic nature of the section.¹⁵³³ At first glance vv. 22-59 look 'common-talk'; but a careful look at the questioning nature of the crowd (at vv. 25, 28 and 34) and Jesus' answers (Gk. ἀπεκρίθη; vv. 26 and 29) suggest the *question and answer* format. Dodd (1998: 207) rightly says that, "The rhythm of question and answer determines its shape. The continuous process of *challenge and riposte* begins with the crowd's first *claim* in the first question (v. 25b), then Jesus' *challenge* (v. 26) and finally, the crowd's weakest of *riposte* (v. 34) cf. Neyrey, 2007: 121-30). These kinds of claims/questions, challenges and ripostes are common phenomena within the question and answer dialogue.¹⁵³⁴ The *question and answer* dialogue establishes arguments through metaphorical language (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 224-7).¹⁵³⁵ In this narrative, the will of the Father is at the centre of Jesus' arguments (vv. 38-40). Another important feature of the sub-slot is the use of multiple layers of literary sub-forms. Mlakuzhyil (2007) finds several *literary criteria*,¹⁵³⁶ *dramatic techniques*,¹⁵³⁷ and *structural patterns*¹⁵³⁸ within the larger body of the gospel, and vv. 22-71 is not an exception. In this sub-slot (vv. 22-71) the narrator uses several literary devices and forms in order to narrate the episode effectively (see Table 56). He employs *synonymous parallelism* (vv. 35, 55; cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 134), *antithetical parallelism* (v. 27), *agency language* (v. 27; cf. Witherington, 1998: 134), *misunderstanding* (vv. 34; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 239; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 134).

¹⁵³² I.e., one between the world 'from above' and the world 'from below'.

¹⁵³³ Dodd (1960: 334) is of the opinion that, "It (6:25-59) takes the form of a sustained dialogue between Jesus and the crowd who, having partaken of the feast of loaves and fishes, having followed him from the spot where the miracle took place". Dodd (1960: 335; cf. Keener, 2003: 680) further says that, "The dialogue is here based upon well-known Jewish beliefs, or speculations, about Manna".

¹⁵³⁴ While vv. 22-40 serves as part of a *quest story*, vv. 41-59 serves as part of a *rejection story*. Painter (1998: 134) cf. Talbert, 1992: 124-42; Maritz and Van Belle, 2006: 334-41) considers vv. 22-40 as part of the larger unit vv. 22-71 and vv. 41-59 as part of the larger unit vv. 41-71.

¹⁵³⁵ Wead (1970: 83) explains that, "The discourse on the bread of life is built upon the elaborate use of metaphors. The metaphors of the passage are used without the assistance of any parabolic forms. The passages involve the development of the metaphors". Cf. Borgen, 1965; Morris, 1995: 333-7; Brown, 1960: 263, 272-5.

¹⁵³⁶ Introductions, inclusions, conclusions, transitions, characteristic vocabulary, chronological and geographical indications, liturgical feasts, bridge-passages, hook-words, techniques of repetition, change of literary genre, narrative, dialogue, and discourse.

¹⁵³⁷ Change of *dramatis personae* or scenes, techniques of alternating scenes or seven scenes or diptych, double-stage action or vanishing characters, or law of stage duality, sequence of action-dialogue-discourse, development of the plot, and dramatic pattern.

¹⁵³⁸ Parallelism, chiasmus, concentric structure, and spiral structure. Talbert (1992: 135-6; cf. Blomberg, 1998: 134) sees not only an inclusio but also an elaborate chiasmus, accounting for the structure of all of verses 35-58 (1965; cf. Blomberg, 2001: 127) has demonstrated that the bulk of material in vv. 31-58 forms a unity following Jewish rhetorical and literary form known as a *proem Midrash*.

¹⁵³⁹ Bultmann (1971: 221-2; Smith, 1999: 153; Resseguie, 2001: 41-51; Duke, 1985: 145-7) states that, "Τί ποιῶμεν κτλ., which is out of place after v. 27, could come from a dialogue whose key-word was the

Eucharistic language (εὐχαριστήσαντος τοῦ κυρίου; v. 23, 52-8; cf. Meeks, 1972: 44-72; Quast, 1991/1996: 55),¹⁵⁴⁰ *recollection language* (bread discourse is closely knitted together with the sign at vv. 1-15),¹⁵⁴¹ *bread symbolism* (cf. Strachan, 1941: 186-96; Culpepper, 1983: 196-7),¹⁵⁴² *contrasting language* (between τὸ μάννα and the ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ; vv. 27, 32-3, 49-51, 58),¹⁵⁴³ *irony* (cf. vv. 35, 42; cf. Duke, 1985: 48, 54, 64-5, 69; Chatman, 1978: 229),¹⁵⁴⁴ *repetitive language*,¹⁵⁴⁵ Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν formula (vv. 32, 47, 53; cf. Blomberg, 2001: 123-4), *shock effect* (vv. 52-9),¹⁵⁴⁶ and Ἐγὼ εἰμι sayings (vv. 35, 41, 48, 51; cf. Ball, 1996: 77-80, 156-8; Namita, 2000: 39-41).¹⁵⁴⁷ He uses all this in order to present the dialogical discourse aesthetically to the reader (see Table 56). Through all these means the reader is further informed about the characters and their movements.

Utterance	Form	Content
Crowd	A question out of surprise	When did Jesus come to the other side of the sea?
Jesus	Veracity statement, revealing the hidden agenda of his	The intention of people's search is not because of seeing the sign but because of eating and filling of loaves;

θεοῦ; and the question has the characteristically Johannine ring of misunderstanding or failure to understand". Cf. Culpepper, 1983: 92; Brown, 1960: 267; Morris, 1995: 330; Köstenberger, 2004: 208-13.

¹⁵⁴⁰ Culpepper (1983: 197; cf. Harrill, 2008: 133-58; Van der Watt, 2007b, 186-200; Keener, 2003: 690; Gench, 2007: 43; Lindars, 1981: 89; Lindars, 1992: 51-66; Morris, 1995: 311-2; contra Bultmann, 1971: 234-9; Barrett, 1982: 80-97) says that, "The Eucharistic overtones of 6:51-58 are universally recognised. Just as the bread is not physical bread, and the life it sustains is eternal life, so the possibility must be considered that the eating of the bread in a sacramental observance points to a profound appropriation of Jesus, the doing of the will of the one who sent him, and his death".

¹⁵⁴¹ Resseguie (2005: 52-54) considers it as 'type-scenes'. He (2005: 53-54) says that, "John places the feeding miracle on a mountain and follows it with a 'bread of life' discourse (John 6:1-15, 26-59). A variation of the type-scene also occurs in the book of Revelation".

¹⁵⁴² Culpepper (1983: 199; cf. Beardslee, 1970: 11; Ramsey, 1957: 123-4; Keener, 2003: 680; Barrett, 1982: 65-79; Hakola, 2005: 166-9; Lee, 1994: 126-60) says that, "... the misunderstandings, ironies, and symbolism of the Fourth Gospel highlights its 'deformation of language'. Images, concepts, and symbols common in its milieu are defamiliarised, given new meaning, and used idiosyncratically". Namita (2000: 125) says that, "The dialogue takes them [i.e., the crowd/Jews] to the revelation of a mystery beyond the earthly presence of Jesus in flesh".

¹⁵⁴³ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 224; also see 235; Barrett, 1982: 98-115; Hakola, 2005: 163-5) opines that, "Over against ... intense focus on the food that perishes (cf. Isa 55:2; as elsewhere on earthly riches, cf. Matthew 6:19 onward), Jesus now poses as an absolute contrast—and hence in the manner of *mašāl*—labour for the bread that endures to eternal life". Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 207; Blomberg, 2001: 123; Brown, 1960: 265; Wead, 1970: 83.

¹⁵⁴⁴ Stibbe (1993: 88; cf. Sproston, 1985: 77-97) is of the opinion that, "The tragic irony is this: that even though these Jews study the Scriptures of Moses, they have not recognized the one about whom Moses was really writing. As a result, when they hear the revelatory teaching of Jesus in this story, all they can do is murmur and grumble like their ancestors of old". Duke (1985: 65) comments that, "It is often noted that 6:42 echoes a remark about Jesus found in the other three gospels. Only in John, however, is this objection dressed in irony" (cf. Luke 4:22; Mark 6:33; Matthew 13:55).

¹⁵⁴⁵ I.e., ἀναστήσω αὐτὸν ἐγὼ [ἐν] τῇ ἑσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ, vv. 39, 40, 44, 54; καταβέβηκα ἀπὸ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, vv. 33, 38, 41, 42, 50, 51, 58; cf. Wead, 1970: 85.

¹⁵⁴⁶ The utterance about the eating of Jesus' flesh created a 'shock effect' in the minds of the crowd/Jews. The shock element was also a well-known rhetorical effect used in ancient times. For instance, the Sophist writings of Philostratus, *Vit. Soph.* 2.29.621.

¹⁵⁴⁷ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 43; cf. Gench, 2007: 41-3; Witherington, 1995: 156-7) says that, "Jesus now speaks the decisive word which tears the veil away from the bread of God he means: 'I am the bread of life'. This 'I am' collects together all the force of Jesus' claim to divine authority". For more details about the usage of diverse linguistic phenomena, refer to Louw, 1992: 17-30. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 124; Wead, 1970: 86; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 92; Dodd, 1963: 198-9.

	interlocutors and also the Son of Man, and a contrast	warns them that they do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life which the Son of Man can give them; God the Father has set his seal on the Son of Man
Crowd	A question out of perplexity	What must they do to perform the works of God?
Jesus	Belief statement, statement for resolving the perplexity, and a belief-statement	The work of God is believing in him whom Father sent
Crowd	Questions, intertextual utterance	What sign Jesus is going to give them so that they can believe? What Jesus is performing? As written in scriptures their ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness
Jesus	Veracity statement, revelation, clarification, double meaning	It was not Moses who gave them the bread from heaven but the heavenly Father who gives the true bread from heaven; Bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world
Crowd	Request, misunderstanding	Give us this bread always
Jesus	Self-revelation, clarification, belief-statement, metaphor, repetition	Jesus is the bread of life; those who come to Jesus will never be hungry and those who believe in him will never be thirsty; Jesus points out: crowd's unbelieving nature (v. 36), the way he protects those who are brought to him by the Father (v. 37), his mission as one who was sent by the Father 'from above' (v. 38), Father's will to protect all who come to Jesus and raising up on the last day (v. 39), and Father's will that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life (v. 40)
Crowd (Jews)	Memory statement (v. 41b), identity question, surprise question	This is Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know. He says: "I have come down from heaven"
Jesus	Order, inter-textuality, repetition, veracity statement, self-revelatory utterance, contrast	People are brought to Jesus by the Father (v. 44) who have heard and learned from the Father concerning Jesus (v. 45); only Jesus has seen the Father (v. 46); veracity statement: those who believe have eternal life and that Jesus is the bread of life (vv. 47-48); comparison between the bread the forefathers ate and died and those who eat the bread from heaven and live (vv. 49-50); and Jesus declares that his flesh is the true bread (v. 51)
Crowd (Jews)	A surprise question, misunderstanding	How can Jesus give the people his flesh to eat?
Jesus	Veracity statement, mysterious/metaphorical sayings, mystical utterance, contrast, inter-textuality	Eternal life is assured to people only by way of the flesh and drinking the blood of the Son of Man; a Father-Son-believer interlocking is introduced of "abiding" character (vv. 56-57).

Table 56: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 6:22-59

While the dialogues so far are mostly with individuals (1:35-2:11; 3:1-21; 4:1-26; 4:46-54; 5:1-15; 6:1-14),¹⁵⁴⁸ hereafter the narrator includes some of the important group dialogues (6:25-8:59; cf. Namita, 2000: 124-5).¹⁵⁴⁹ The phenomenon of inter-textuality is one of the striking features of the dialogue (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 196).¹⁵⁵⁰ According to Borgen (1965: 28-58; cf. Hägerland, 2003: 319-20; Culpepper, 1983: 196), John 6:31-58 is a homily introduced by the scripture quotation in 6:31.¹⁵⁵¹ This is followed by a two-part explication in 6:32-48 and 6:49-57, in which central concepts of the quotation recur and are interpreted, and a concluding summary in 6:58, which again echoes the introduction.¹⁵⁵² Though vv. 31-58 has all the characteristics of a *homily* (or discourse), its overall development is in the form of a *question and answer dialogue* (cf. Ellis, 1984: 7). Stibbe (1993: 85) states that, "The form of the speech material is one favoured by John throughout the gospel. It is essentially the interrogation-response form . . . Within this basic form, John has also made use of the homiletic techniques of first-century rabbinic Judaism".¹⁵⁵³ Though the first sub-slot shows tenets of various sub-forms and literary devices, the *question and answer* development of the dialogue is the overarching tenet. All other forms¹⁵⁵⁴ are in one or other way intertwined within the *question and answer* format of the sub-slot.

The dialogue in vv. 22-59 functions at several levels (cf. Collins, 1986: 6-7). The impromptu beginning of the dialogue in v. 25b compliments a natural look for the slot. The dialogue develops in an architectural and religious setting as the narrator describes the synagogue context (vv. 24, 59) and the approaching Passover (v. 4; cf. Asiedu-Peprah, 2001: 45).¹⁵⁵⁵ The dialogue is outlined by the help of various literary forms and features and they together provide a faith-generating literary masterpiece (see Table 56).¹⁵⁵⁶ Wead (1970: 86) observes within the sub-slot the characteristic feature of Jesus' talk-movement between the literal and the figurative.¹⁵⁵⁷ The characterial

¹⁵⁴⁸ With exception to the Jews in 2:16-20 and 5:16-47 and to the disciples in 4:27-38 and 6:16-21.

¹⁵⁴⁹ Namita (2000: 125) says that, ". . . Jesus' inter-personal dialogue and dialogue with group give us sufficient guidelines for the fruitful implementation of dialogue, on an informal basis. It has valuable and interesting pedagogical and catechetical implications in the religiously pluralistic context of today".

¹⁵⁵⁰ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 44; cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 109; Gench, 2007: 41-43) says that, "The Exodus typology linked the gift of manna and water from the rock, and it is probable that John has this connection in mind, as the midrash itself (cf. on 52) and 7:37 imply".

¹⁵⁵¹ Attridge (2002: 9; cf. Keener, 2003: 679; Lindars, 1972: 249-53) says that, "The Bread of Life discourse in John 6, as Borgen (1965) persuasively argued, looks every bit like a homiletic midrash, as it plays with the wording of a citation from the Psalms and finds in the biblical text a new meaning applicable to the present reality of the homilist's audience".

¹⁵⁵² Hylen (2005: 52) says that, "The term 'echo' is . . . used to describe a relationship between texts. A standard definition of echo distinguishes it from allusion based on the degree of the author's conscious attention in evoking another text".

¹⁵⁵³ Many scholars now show how 6:25-51 reveals marked similarities with the homilies in Philo and Palestinian *midrashim* (cf. Lindars, 1990: 36-7; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 85).

¹⁵⁵⁴ I.e., forms like dramatic, vertical, conflictive, metaphorical and homiletical.

¹⁵⁵⁵ Also the mention about the coming of the Passover in the beginning (6:4) provides religious coloring for the episode.

¹⁵⁵⁶ The narrator's emphasis on the theme of 'believing' has to be considered as an important feature of the dialogue. He views and masterplan everything from the angle of 'belief'. It works well not only at the immediate context of his readers but also at the eternal perspective of the gospel.

¹⁵⁵⁷ Here Wead attempts to see the way Jesus' talk develops from literal to figurative and vice versa in the discourse.

interactions are suspense and surprise generating, interrogative and argumentative, conflict resolution centered, and self-revelatory and religious (cf. Vorster, 2009: 505-78). The dialogue also functions at the didactic, kerygmatic and confessional levels (cf. Brown, 1960: 273).¹⁵⁵ On the extended level, it directs the reader toward the 'hour' and the 'lifting up' of the Son of Man. The peculiar natures of the dialogue in vv. 41-51 (i.e., a complaint to response) and in vv. 52-59 (dispute to resolution) are characteristic. Moloney (1998: 209-10) is of the view that,

As the Passover approaches (cf. vv. 4, 22) Jesus teaches that there will be a gift of God, made available through the Son of Man (v. 27), the one sent by God (v. 29), that surpasses all human nourishment (v. 26). Labouring for the possession of this nourishment (vv. 28-29), believing in the one whom God sent (v. 29), will produce eternal life (v. 27). The program for the rest of the discourse has been established. 'The whole discourse is summarized here' (Barrett, 1978: 282), and it is closely linked to themes that are important at the celebration of the Passover: nourishment, bread from heaven, and revelation of God in the Law.

Moloney's observation provides us with a better overview of the dialogue's unique function. The usual, belief and unbelief conflict is at the heart of the dialogue.¹⁵⁵⁹ Jesus' emphasis on belief (vv. 29, 35, 36, 40, 47)¹⁵⁶⁰ and his interlocutors' continuous questioning (vv. 25b, 28, 30-31, 34, 42, 52) provide ample evidences for the reader to understand the factors. The entire dialogue can be recapitulated around the two utterances of Jesus, i.e., 'I am doing the work of God (v. 29) and I am the bread of life (vv. 35, 48).'¹⁵⁶¹

The *question-and-answer* format of the dialogue maintains all the qualities of a rhetorical and dramatic discourse (cf. Bowles, 2010: 7-29; Moloney, 1998: 207). The engagement of Jesus with his interlocutors provides all the features of a direct-talk (cf. Morris, 1995: 336). When the crowds/Jews come up with their questions mostly out of their lack of knowledge and misunderstanding (cf. vv. 25b, 28, 30-31, 34, 42, 52), Jesus approaches them from the eternal perspective (cf. vv. 26-27, 29, 32-33, 35-40, 43-51, 53-58; see Dodd, 1960: 338-9). In the dialogue, Jesus' nature as one 'from above' is revealed in contrast to his interlocutors 'from below'. This 'from above' and 'from below' contrast lays at the foundation of the 'I am' formula. Jesus' 'Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν' formula (cf. 26a, 32a, 47, 43a) affirms the veracity of his words (cf. Blomberg, 2001: 123). This formula helps the reader be aware of the way Jesus could correct the false understanding of the crowd/Jews (cf. vv. 26-27).¹⁵⁶² Its analeptical and

¹⁵⁵⁸ It also suggests clarification, leads the readers to belief, shows revelatory tenets, exemplifies vertical features, and moves both analeptically and proleptically within the larger framework of the narrative.

¹⁵⁵⁹ As Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 130) state that, "Believing 'into' is a characteristic Johannine idiom" (1993: 270) opines that, "To believe Jesus (6:30) is to believe in the one whom he (God) sent (6:29) who is the Son of Man." In the dialogue, it is assumed, refers to Jesus, which the crowd understood".

¹⁵⁶⁰ Morris (1995: 336) opines about v. 56 as follows: "... the closest possible relationship so that the eater and Christ is in the eater. The thought of abiding is a prominent one in John. It reminds us that the believe is a contemporary state, but a permanent one, with fellowship with the Lord as the predominant note".

¹⁵⁶¹ Cf. Brown, 1960: 273; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 91; Blomberg, 2001: 123.

¹⁵⁶² Blomberg (2001: 123) points out that, "... the grain of John's redactional emphases, is introduce double-'Amen' formula, and remains somewhat cryptic, all speak for its authenticity".

resemblances with 6:1-21, in the immediate context, and with 4:1-42, in the larger context, function at the macro-level of the narrative (cf. Funk, 1988: 133-62). John the narrator communicates the message that, the provider of the literal bread (cf. vv. 1-15) is himself the bread of life (vv. 25-58). This self-revelatory aspect of Jesus is rhetorical from the reader's point of view (vv. 35, 48; cf. Funk, 1988: 11-8; Green, 2003: 37-66).¹⁵⁶³

The Eucharistic concepts like 'eating the flesh' (cf. vv. 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58), 'drinking his blood' (vv. 53, 54, 55, 56; cf. Harrill, 2008: 133-58) and 'abiding in him' (v. 56) establish a strong bond between Jesus and the believer (cf. Dunn, 1971: 328-38; Van der Watt, 2007b, 186-200).¹⁵⁶⁴ The narrator's style of describing Eucharistic Christology from the mouth of Jesus is discernible (vv. 53-58).¹⁵⁶⁵ It helps the reader understand the Eucharistic perspective of the Johannine community.¹⁵⁶⁶ Jesus' role as an agent of fulfillment and his superiority over Moses (vv. 32-33, 35, 45, 49-50, 53-58) and manna (vv. 31, 49, 58) are resultant in several ways.¹⁵⁶⁷ An attempt to interlock Jewish theology with the newly formed Christian faith is comprehensible within the slot.¹⁵⁶⁸ Jesus corrects the wrong notion of his listeners' understanding by framing the expression "not Moses, but the Father" (v. 32).¹⁵⁶⁹ In the process of doing that he broaches Mosaic and prophetic traditions (vv. 31, 32-33, 45-51).¹⁵⁷⁰ The objective of the narrator is to set Jesus apart as

¹⁵⁶³ Cf. Wead, 1970: 83-4; Carson, 1991: 289; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 134-5; Dodd, 1960: 338.

¹⁵⁶⁴ Johannine sacramentalism is highlighted through the expressions "... eating the flesh of the Son of Man ... drinking his blood ..." and "Jesus' flesh is the food and blood is the drink" (vv. 53-58; cf. Carson, 1991: 294-9). Also see Morris, 1995: 315-37; Blomberg, 2001: 126; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 95.

¹⁵⁶⁵ According to Keener (2003: 663), "more than with some of the previous narratives, the discourse that follows the feeding of the five thousand interprets and applies it, bringing out the christological meaning of the event". Stibbe (1993: 86) continues saying that, "In vv. 25-59, the discourse material takes up the theme of bread but elevates it to a much higher, spiritual and symbolic level". Stibbe (1993: 86) further states that, "discipleship is a dominant idea in vv. 25-71. From v. 25 onwards, the narrator is concerned with what is involved in coming to Jesus, and then in remaining as a follower. However, the most potent theme in John 6 (one which unites the chapter) centres on the idea of bread". Cf. Brown, 1960: 273; Carson, 1991: 278-80; Köstenberger, 2004: 206-17.

¹⁵⁶⁶ Smith (1984: 182) is of the view that, "... the discourses and dialogues of the first half of the gospel concentrate upon the question of Jesus' identity and role. Just as a fixation upon the Christological question fits the proposed church-synagogue milieu". Cf. Moloney, 1998: 207; Wead, 1970: 83-4; Painter, 1993: 280; Dodd, 1960: 335-6; Blomberg, 2001: 126; Carson, 1991: 278-80; Köstenberger, 2004: 206-17; Brown, 1960: 274.

¹⁵⁶⁷ Stibbe (1993: 88) opines that, "... in John 6, there stands among the Jews one who is far greater than Moses, Jesus of Nazareth. This Jesus has bread to offer which is far more precious than the manna which God gave to Moses, for it is the life-giving bread of his own body". Cf. Dodd, 1960: 335-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 91; Wead, 1970: 83-4; Culpepper, 1983: 91-2; Carson, 1991: 283-9.

¹⁵⁶⁸ Dodd (1960: 335) opines that, "The dialogue is here based upon well-attested Jewish beliefs, or speculations, about manna". In later rabbinic tradition the renewal of the gift of manna becomes a fixed feature of Jewish eschatological expectations. In rabbinic tradition bread is a standing symbol of the Torah.

¹⁵⁶⁹ Moloney (1998: 212) says that, "When Israel looked back to the foundational experience of the Exodus a link was made between Moses and the gift of the manna, understood as bread from heaven (cf. Exo 16:4; Psalms 78:24; 105:40; Neh 9:15; Wis 16:20)".

¹⁵⁷⁰ According to Smith (1984: 176), "Jesus is certainly designated a teacher in John, yet his teaching is not, and by its nature could not be, understood by his interlocutors. It is a teaching which can, however, be understood by the Christian reader". Smith (1984: 179) puts it further that, "in John as in the synoptics Jesus appears as miracle worker and teacher as well as the one who destined for death. Yet in contrast with the synoptics the Jesus of John performs miracles expressly to signify who he is". Stibbe (1993: 87) argues that, "From v. 25, Jesus' elusiveness is indicated by

an 'authoritative', 'interactive' and 'superior' personality in comparison to the rest interlocutors (cf. Moore, 1989: 25-40).¹⁵⁷¹ Jesus is standing firm for a 'believing' community hence issues a strong challenge to the majority culture.¹⁵⁷² This pericope and its dialogical turning points in Jesus' public ministry in Galilee, as the following episode shows (cf. Richardson, 1987/1997: 244).

8.2.3.2. Sub-Slot Two (6:60-66)

The second sub-slot (vv. 60-66) begins with a transitional conjunction (i.e., οὖν, cf. Wallace, 1974; see Table 57). Though the dialogue continues in the same setting, the interlocutors are changing.¹⁵⁷³ The content of the dialogue is restricted to three utterance units, one relating to the disciples (v. 60b; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 131) and two relating to Jesus (vv. 61b-64a, 65). The first and second sub-slots (vv. 22-59, 60-66) can be connected by linking the expressions ὁ λόγος (v. 59)¹⁵⁷⁵ and ὁ λόγος (v. 60). Painter (1993: 281; cf. Robertson, 1932: 113-4) says that, "There is a large number (πολλοὶ) of disciples who find Jesus' word hard (Σκληρὸς ἐστὶν ὁ λόγος) and are scandalised (σκανδαλίζει) by it, so that it causes them to murmur (γογγύουσιν), ultimately to defect, 6: 60-61, 66".¹⁵⁷⁷ The question raised by the disciples in v. 60 (Σκληρὸς ὁ λόγος οὗτος· τίς δύναται αὐτοῦ ἀκούειν;) reflects their discontentment with the teaching of Jesus (i.e., vv. 25-58; cf. Namita, 2000: 125; see Table 57).¹⁵⁷⁸

his use of language. Now the technique of discontinuous dialogue comes to the fore. The discontinuity between Jesus and his listeners arises from the fact that he teaches heavenly realities which are misunderstood by his listeners.¹⁵⁷¹ Conway (2002: 479-95) tries to see the gospel as a 'production' of the Johannine community. When Jesus, Andrew, the Jews, and the crowd are present at the setting, only Jesus' words and actions are highlighted for their precision and purpose. Jesus' words are emphasised, whereas others' talk is diminished. These various features of the episode make the readers think about the 'production' of the story with a greater mastery by the author.

¹⁵⁷² Robbins (1996: 23) says that, "Through the center of a text is an imaginary 'rhetorical' line between the text and the reader". The narrator and the reader dialogue develops through Jesus' statement in vv. 35 and 48 (i.e., "bread of life") as an imaginary 'rhetorical' line (cf. Van der Watt, 2007b, 186-200; Booth, 1961: 149-65).

¹⁵⁷³ Hence, vv. 60-66 has to be treated in relation to vv. 22-59. While Jesus' interlocutors in vv. 22-59 are the crowd/Jesus, his interlocutors in vv. 60-66 are the disciples.

¹⁵⁷⁴ Blomberg (2001: 129; cf. Barrett, 1978: 306; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 137) makes clear that presupposing and building on commonly understood tradition is again clear from the fact that (1) he never explains Jesus' 'hard teaching'; (2) the reference to the betrayal assumes some understanding of that later event; (3) a larger group of 'disciples' is mentioned that has not earlier been described; and (4) the 'Twelve' are introduced in verse 67 without explanation".

¹⁵⁷⁵ Neyrey (2007: 131) says that, "In addition to members of the synagogue, some of 'his disciples' even doubt Jesus' claims and teaching. In what seems to be a pun on the 'bread' motif, they say, 'this teaching is therefore hard to chew and eat (6:60)". Cf. Carson, 1991: 299; Painter, 1993: 281-2.

¹⁵⁷⁶ Beasley-Murray (1987: 96; cf. Witherington, 1995: 160) is of the opinion that, "The teaching of the disciples is declared to be 'impossible', not only by Jewish opponents and spectators but also by disciples of Jesus, with the general 'grumbling'".

¹⁵⁷⁷ Robertson (1932: 113) says that, "Old adjective, rough, harsh, dried hard (from *skellō*, to dry), probably the saying of Jesus that he was the bread of life come down from heaven and they were to eat him". Cf. Neyrey, 1980: 212-6; Painter, 1993: 281-2; Carson, 1991: 300.

¹⁵⁷⁸ Cf. Carson, 1991: 300; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Painter, 1993: 281-2.

John 6:60-66	Overview
<p>v.60: Πολλοὶ οὖν ἀκούσαντες ἐκ τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ εἶπαν, Σκληρός ἐστιν ὁ λόγος οὗτος· τίς δύναται αὐτοῦ ἀκοῦειν;</p> <p>v.61: εἰδὼς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐν ἑαυτῷ ὅτι γογγύζουσιν περὶ τούτου οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, Τοῦτο ὑμᾶς σκανδαλίζει;</p> <p>v.62: ἐὰν οὖν θεωρῆτε τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἀναβαίνοντα ὅπου ἦν τὸ πρότερον;</p> <p>v.63: τὸ πνεῦμά ἐστιν τὸ ζῶοντιον, ἡ σὰρξ οὐκ ὠφελεῖ οὐδέν· τὰ ῥήματα δὲ ἐγὼ λελάληκα ὑμῖν πνεῦμά ἐστιν καὶ ζωὴ ἐστιν.</p> <p>v.64: ἀλλ' εἰσὶν ἐξ ὑμῶν τινες οἱ οὐ πιστεύουσιν. ἦδει γὰρ ἐξ ἀρχῆς ὁ Ἰησοῦς τίνες εἰσὶν οἱ μὴ πιστεύοντες καὶ τίς ἐστιν ὁ παραδῶσων αὐτόν.</p> <p>v.65: καὶ ἔλεγεν, Διὰ τοῦτο εἶρηκα ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐδεὶς δύναται ἐλθεῖν πρὸς με ἐὰν μὴ ἦ δεδομένον αὐτῷ ἐκ τοῦ πατρὸς.</p> <p>v.66: Ἐκ τούτου πολλοὶ [ἐκ] τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ ἀπῆλθον εἰς τὰ ὀπίσω καὶ οὐκέτι μετ' αὐτοῦ περιεπάτουν.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 60-66 is comprised of three utterance units (vv. 60b, 61b-64a, 65b); out of the three utterance units one is of the disciples (v. 60b) and two are of Jesus (vv. 61b-64a, 65b);</p> <p>(2) While the disciples' question in v. 60b is reported as the first utterance of the sub-slot, Jesus' two utterances (vv. 61b-64a, 65b) are reported as his responses to their talk;</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 61a, 65, 66) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 60a, 61a, 65a).</p>

Table 57: The dialogue of 6:60-66 within the narratorial framework

The narrator frames the question of the disciples as a complaint (γογγύζουσιν)¹⁵⁷⁹ since they accuse Jesus for his difficult teaching (σκληρός, v. 60; cf. Strachan, 1941: 196; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 245).¹⁵⁸⁰ Bruce (1983: 162) says that, “His (Jesus’) language was hard to take not merely because it was difficult to grasp but because they found it offensive”. As a response to them, in his first utterance unit, Jesus lays out two questions and then gives an answer by narrating fact (vv. 61b-64a). The two questions he raised are: Τοῦτο ὑμᾶς σκανδαλίζει; (v. 61b) and ἐὰν οὖν θεωρῆτε τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἀναβαίνοντα ὅπου ἦν τὸ πρότερον; (v. 62; cf. Robertson, 1932: 113; Resseguie, 2001: 54).¹⁵⁸¹ While his disciples consider the teaching that he had already laid down (vv. 25-58) as difficult and offensive (σκληρός and σκανδαλίζει, cf. vv. 60, 61b), Jesus surprises them further with another difficult question: ἐὰν οὖν θεωρῆτε τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἀναβαίνοντα ὅπου ἦν τὸ πρότερον; (v. 62; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 56).¹⁵⁸² This makes the situation more scandalising. In the latter half of his first response (i.e., vv. 63-64a), Jesus distinguishes between τὸ πνεῦμά ἐστιν τὸ ζῶοντιον and ἡ σὰρξ οὐκ ὠφελεῖ οὐδέν, and makes the connection between the words that are already spoken to them in vv. 25-58 (τὰ ῥήματα δὲ ἐγὼ λελάληκα ὑμῖν)

¹⁵⁷⁹ It can also be translated as grumble, mutter, whisper and the like.

¹⁵⁸⁰ Stibbe (1993: 87) states that, “The whole nature of Jesus’ discourse is summed up in the description of the murmuring disciples of 6:60; it is σκληρός . . . λόγος, ‘hard teaching’”. Blomberg (2001: 128; cf. Barrett, 1978: 303) observes that, “The Greek verb for ‘offend’ (*skandalizō*) is more common in the synoptics than in John; one thinks especially of Matthew 18:5, 7, 8 and 9”. See Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Painter, 1993: 281-2.

¹⁵⁸¹ Painter (1993: 281) states that, “Evidently what scandalised the disciples was Jesus’ discourse (6:53-58) about eating his (or the Son of Man’s) flesh and drinking his blood”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96; Carson, 1991: 300-1; Kanagaraj, 2005: 220-1; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6.

¹⁵⁸² Painter (1993: 282) is of the opinion that, “That ascent, or being lifted up, refers to Jesus’ death on the cross by means of which he is exalted in saving efficacy, 12:32. The interpretation of the saving efficacy of Jesus’ death probably emerged in the struggle with the synagogue and many believers found the view unacceptable”. Blomberg (2001: 128) is of the opinion that, “In verse 62 Jesus speaks again of the ascent of the Son of Man (recall 1:51; 3:13), with another clear allusion to his pre-existence”. Also see Bruce, 1983: 163; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Painter, 1993: 281-2; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96.

and spirit and life (πνεῦμά ἐστιν καὶ ζωὴ ἐστιν).¹⁵⁸³ Also he states that some (τινες) are disciples are unbelieving (οἱ μὴ πιστεύοντες)¹⁵⁸⁴ and hence they are people of flesh (ἡ κτ Lee, 1994: 136; Smith, 1999: 162).¹⁵⁸⁵ Jesus' attempt to join themes like ῥήματα, πνεῦμα, ζῆ πιστις over against σὰρξ is a noticeable factor here (see Table 57).

As Jesus develops his response, the narrator puts a pause in v.64b and then continues the r in v. 65 (cf. Namita, 2000: 125). In v. 64b, the narrator attempts three important things: reframes one of his earlier narratorial comments in 2: 24-25 (cf. 6: 34b; cf. Painter, 1999 *second*, he reemphasises Jesus' utterance in v. 64a about the distinction between 'believing' 'unbelieving' (cf. Dodd, 1960: 341-3); and *third*, he differentiates the one who is going to (παραδώσω) from the larger body of unbelieving (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 248).¹⁵⁸⁶ (1991: 302; cf. Wallace, 1996: 614) makes the observation, "The pattern of unbelief can surprise to Jesus. He knew *from the beginning* not only who did not believe but also the example of unbelief, the betrayer himself".¹⁵⁸⁷ Jesus' final utterance (v. 65; cf. vv. 37, 39, 45) in the second sub-slot reaffirms the relationship among the Father, Son and the believing. The narrator concludes the dialogue of the second sub-slot with a narratorial note in v. 66. Strachan, 1941: 197; Talbert, 1992: 141).¹⁵⁸⁹ He reports the following two things: *first*, "because of this many of his disciples turned back" (Ἐκ τούτου πολλοὶ [ἐκ] τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ ἀπῆλθον τὰ ὀπίσω); and *second*, they "no longer went about with him" (οὐκέτι μετ' αὐτοῦ περιεπατήσαν). (Smith, 1999: 163). The dialogue develops dramatically as the attitude of the disciples turns to complaint/offense (v. 61), as Jesus is aware of their complaint/offense (v. 61), and his knowledge about them from the very first is confirmed (v. 64b; cf. Robertson, 1932: 113-1980: 135-207; see Table 57). The central content of this dialogue is Jesus' reaffirmation of his words over and against the unbelieving nature of the disciples (vv. 63-64).

¹⁵⁸³ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 73) says that, "Jesus' words (ῥήματα) are simply his revelatory discourse considered in its individual statements; the two terms are interchangeable (cf. 12:48a with 12:48b, 17:6 with 17:7)."

¹⁵⁸⁴ Kysar (1997: 178) states that, "That Jesus knows who will not believe (v. 64b) suggests his foreknowledge."

¹⁵⁸⁵ Namita (2000: 125) says that, "... Jesus was not ready to compromise the matter. He challenged them to go beyond their human understanding power to the gift of the spirit and trust in God: 'It is the Spirit that gives one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father' (6:65). It gives a typical model for dialogue with grace." (Carson, 1991: 301-2; Painter, 1993: 281-2; Dodd, 1960: 342; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96-7).

¹⁵⁸⁶ Resseguie (2005: 159) states that, "Judas neither speaks nor acts. Rather Jesus mentions Judas and the omniscient narrator interprets what he meant. What is striking is that he is one of the 'twelve', which is mentioned once by Jesus and a second time by the narrator, and he is a betrayer or the one who hands Jesus over to the authorities". Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Painter, 1993: 281-2.

¹⁵⁸⁷ John means either 'from the beginning' of Jesus' ministry or possibly, as in 1:1, 'from the beginning' of the world. According to Kysar (1997: 178; cf. Carson, 1991: 302), "In 1:1 πρὸ ἀρχῆς implies that 'the first' is the beginning of reality. And the possibilities of some divine determination rooted in eternity menace the reality of the world." (see Blomberg, 2001: 128-9; Painter, 1993: 281-2; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96).

¹⁵⁸⁸ Moloney (1998: 228) is of the opinion that, "The relationship between Jesus and the disciples is crucial. The initiative of God is the ultimate explanation for the disciple who comes believingly to Jesus and never turns back." (Cf. Carson, 1991: 302-3; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96).

¹⁵⁸⁹ Quast (1991/1996: 56; cf. Wallace, 1996: 658) opines that, "Finally the disciples make their choices. Jesus describes the actual division of the group of disciples which began with the questioning in verse 60 and is explicit in v. 64. Many disciples could no longer follow him". See Bruce, 1983: 164; Kanagaraj, 2005: 22; Carson, 1991: 303; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6.

The form of the dialogue can be determined on the basis of the following details.¹⁵⁹⁰ The dialogue is formed by the combined efforts of both the narrator and the interlocutors (cf. Powell, 1990: 11-21). While the discourse section in vv. 25-58 remains as the central section of the larger episode, vv. 60-71 remains as a two-layered appendix (i.e., vv. 60-66 and 67-71) attached to the central section.¹⁵⁹¹ The utterance-units of the interlocutors may not make sense without the narratorial comments.¹⁵⁹² The words, actions, and movements of the interlocutors (i.e., Jesus and the disciples), along with the comments of the narrator, are important component parts within vv. 60-66 (cf. Windisch, 1993: 25-64; Chatman, 1978: 15-42).¹⁵⁹³ The sub-slot is made of the disciples' εἶπαν (v. 60), Jesus' εἶπεν (v. 61) and ἔλεγεν (v. 65), and the narrator's descriptive statements (vv. 60a, 61a, 64b, 66; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 244-8). The sequential arrangement of the slot, as a *narrative, utterance, narrative, and utterance format* (see Diagram 37), is a characteristic Johannine phenomenon.¹⁵⁹⁴

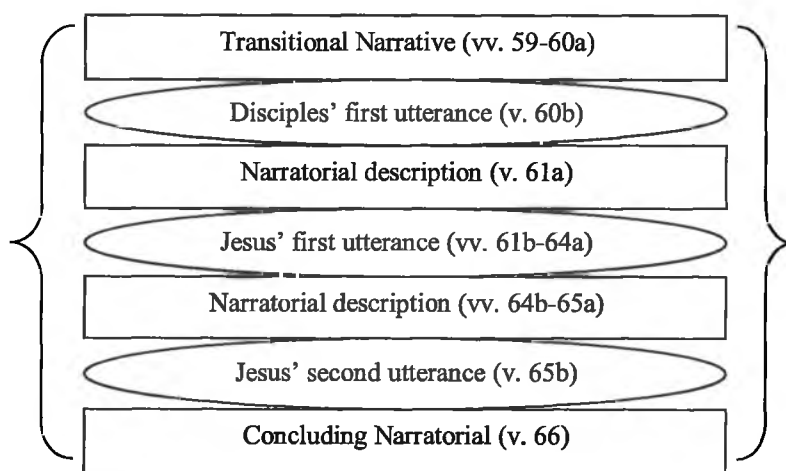


Diagram 37: The development of utterances and narratives

¹⁵⁹⁰ Moloney (1998: 227) says that, "The form of a discourse (i.e., vv. 25-58) disappears as a twofold response to Jesus' words (i.e., vv. 60-66, 67-71) is recorded".

¹⁵⁹¹ Bruce (1983: 162) opines that, "The remaining verses of chap. 6 (i.e., vv. 60-71) form an appendix to the discourse, describing how many of Jesus' hearers, even of those who had hitherto been well disposed to him and had been reckoned among his adherents, were scandalising at his teaching". Dodd (1960: 343) opines that, "The dramatic situation . . . has full symbolic value. The multitude is 'scandalized'. The twelve alone remain faithful". Also see Dodd, 1963: 219; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Dodd, 1960: 340.

¹⁵⁹² In vv. 60-66, the narrator is travelling along with the characters and supplements the dialogue with his narratorial comments (see vv. 61, 64b, 66). Cf. Carson, 1991: 299-303; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96; Morris, 1995: 338-42; Köstenberger, 2004: 218-20; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Bruce, 1983: 162-4.

¹⁵⁹³ Resseguie (2001: 16) says that, "The narrator of the Fourth Gospel adopts an internal stance, providing insight that is unavailable to a narrator who adopts solely an external stance". The following expression is an example: "But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, 'Does this offend you?'" (6:61).

¹⁵⁹⁴ Cf. Morris, 1995: 338-42; Köstenberger, 2004: 218-20; Carson, 1991: 299-303; Bruce, 1983: 162-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96.

In vv. 60-66, the disciples convey a *complaint* through their utterance at the beginning (v. 60). It sustains both the features of a *surprise question* and a *community interaction*. In his response (vv. 61b-64) first of all Jesus talks through *counter question(s)* (vv. 61b-62; cf. Schneke 208).¹⁵⁹⁶ His response is formatted by the help of devices like *antithetical parallelism*, *spirit-flesh dualism* (cf. Smith, 1999: 162),¹⁵⁹⁷ *figurative language* (cf. Bruce, 1983: 162), *contrast/belief-centered talk* (cf. 61b-64; see Table 58). His second utterance unit in v. 65 contains elements of *caution*, *affirmation*, *analepsis* and *repetition* (cf. Robertson, 1932: 113-5).¹⁵⁹⁸ The disciples' question in v. 60b is based on what they had already heard from the mouth of Jesus (vv. 25b-58). While Jesus' first response in vv. 61b-64a could be an attempt to surprise his interlocutors, his second utterance in v. 65 is a restatement of some of his former utterances (cf. Keener, 2003: 693-5). While Painter (1993: 281-2; cf. Brant, 2004: 122; Maniparampil, 2004: 200) considers the entire section (vv. 60-66) as a 'rejection by the disciples',¹⁵⁹⁹ Moloney (1998: 228; cf. Brant, 2004: 170) considers it as 'high rhetoric' of the evangelist.¹⁶⁰⁰

Utterance	Form	Content
Disciples	A surprise question, complaint, community interaction	Jesus' teachings are found to be very difficult for them to accept
Jesus	Counter questions, surprise question, antithetical parallelism, contrast, spirit-flesh dualism, figurative language, belief-centered talk, rhetoric (Moloney, 1998: 228)	Asks the disciples two questions at the beginning: "Does this offend you? Then what if you were the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?" He says: "It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe".
Jesus	A caution, affirmative utterance, analeptical statement, repetitive utterance	He already made it clear that no one can come to the Father unless it is granted by the Father

Table 58: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 6:60-66

¹⁵⁹⁵ Brant (2004: 106) says that, "... form of conflict generated by the ambiguity of reference comes in state questions that challenge the fit of Jesus' language to the world of his dialogue partners" (e.g., 6:60).

¹⁵⁹⁶ Keener (2003: 693) is of the opinion that, "In the context of John's Gospel, Jesus' knowledge of their rejection (6:61; cf. Mark 2:8) confirms his identity (cf. 6:15, 64; 2:25) ... Jesus warns these halfhearted disciples of 'stumbling' (6:61), which refers to 'falling away' from faith in him".

¹⁵⁹⁷ Schneke (1997: 209) says that, "The *οὐρα* of 6:63 cannot differ greatly from that of 6:51, 53 onward, only here that *οὐρα* is placed in antithetical contrast to *πνεῦμα*. This antithesis is still comparable to that of 6:61-62".

¹⁵⁹⁸ All these literary forms are used to convey a message. As Strachan (1941: 197) says that, "The 'flesh' of Jesus must be transformed in the heart of the believer, by His death and ascension, into 'the bread of life'". Cf. Beasley-Murray (1987: 96; Carson, 1991: 299-303; Morris, 1995: 338-42; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Bruce, 1983: 162; Köstenberger, 2004: 218-20).

¹⁵⁹⁹ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 70) opines that, "The riddle of incomprehension and rejection occupies the center of the section again in 64-65". Lee (1994: 136) says that, "The departure of many in v. 66 confirms Jesus' supernatural knowledge of the disciples' rejection (vv. 64-65)".

¹⁶⁰⁰ Moloney (1998: 228; cf. Brant, 2004: 170) opines that, "Jesus' unfinished question, 'What if you were the Son of Man ascending where he was before?' (v. 62), is high rhetoric". Moloney (1998: 228; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 71) further says that, "The question presupposes all that has been said so far about the Son of Man, but Jesus' words in 3:13: 'No one has ascended into heaven, but one has descended from heaven, the Son of Man'".

The dialogue shows tenets of *opposition* (i.e., countering Jesus' teaching; v. 60b; cf. vv. 25b-58), *complaint* (v. 61a; cf. Smith, 1999: 161), *offensive-talk* (v. 61b), *dualistic tendencies* (v. 63), *betrayal* (v. 64b) and *backsliding* (v. 66).¹⁶⁰¹ Jesus' mention about the ascension of the Son of Man, his emphasis on believing in him and his separation of the spiritual from the fleshly make this present teaching even harder for his interlocutors (v. 62).¹⁶⁰² The narrator begins to reveal the character of Judas the 'betrayers' (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 124; Bennema, 2009: 127-35). Resseguie (2005: 159; cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53) states that, "Judas' conflicting traits reflect his conflicting loyalties . . .".¹⁶⁰³ By portending the struggle between light and darkness, Judas is more a function of the plot than a character in his own right".¹⁶⁰⁴ All the above tenets show the antithetical form of the dialogue. The dialogue moves by way of a surprise question of the disciples (v. 60b), Jesus' counter-questions, dualistic and contrasting utterances and his establishment of the relationship among the Father, Son, and the believer.¹⁶⁰⁵ The dialogue is divisive as it sharply divides between believing and unbelieving and between spiritual and fleshly (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 56; Counet, 2000: 203-38). The proleptic nature of the dialogue is obvious from the utterance of Jesus in vv. 61b-64a and the narratorial description in v. 64b about the betrayal of Judas.¹⁶⁰⁶

The dialogue functions in several ways as follows: *first*, the dialogue in vv. 60-66 is an extension of the first sub-slot (vv. 25b-58) and reveals how the disciples have responded to Jesus' teaching;¹⁶⁰⁷ *second*, it reveals Jesus' descent from above and the expected ascension to the Father (v. 62; cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 262);¹⁶⁰⁸ *third*, the dialogue helps the reader to understand the sharp distinction between the believing and the unbelieving and between the spiritual and the fleshly (vv. 62-64; cf. Counet, 2000: 203-38; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 71);¹⁶⁰⁹ *fourth*, it reaffirms

¹⁶⁰¹ These are antagonistic tendencies for the sake of the smooth functioning of the drama. Keener (2003: 693) considers vv. 60-65 as a "misunderstanding and explanation" section. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 162-4; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Brown, 1966: 299-301; Carson, 1991: 299-303; Morris, 1995: 338-42.

¹⁶⁰² Painter (1993: 282) opines that, ". . . it was the words of 6:53-58 that scandalised the many disciples and this scandal was not removed by the provoking words of 6:62-63. It was this provocation which led to the apostasy of the 'many disciples', 6:66".

¹⁶⁰³ Resseguie (2005: 159) further says that, "He is 'chosen', yet he is among those who do not believe. He is 'one of the twelve', yet he is a 'devil'. He is part of the inner circle, yet he hands Jesus over to outsiders, the authorities".

¹⁶⁰⁴ Duke (1985: 99) says that, "Judas betrays Jesus on freshly washed feet and with the taste of sacrament still on his tongue. Precisely at the moment of greatest grace from Jesus he wrenches himself from intimacy with the Light and plunges into outer darkness. Participation in this incongruity is shared, of course, not only by Judas and Satan, but by Jesus himself, who knew his betrayer, we are told, 'from the beginning' (6:64)".

¹⁶⁰⁵ The 'from above' and 'from below' vertical nature of the drama is strengthened by way of all these component parts. Cf. Carson, 1991: 299-303; Brown, 1966: 299-301; Painter, 1993: 281-2; Morris, 1995: 338-42; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6.

¹⁶⁰⁶ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 248) says that, "This says something both about Jesus' knowledge of people and about the outcome of his life. It is clear, nowhere more than here, that the cross has a dominant place in the Fourth Gospel". Cf. Brown, 1966: 299-301; Morris, 1995: 338-42; Carson, 1991: 299-303; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96.

¹⁶⁰⁷ Cf. Painter, 1993: 281-2; Carson, 1991: 301-2; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96; Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Morris, 1995: 338-42; Brown, 1966: 299-301.

¹⁶⁰⁸ Carson (1991: 302) says that, "The connection between v. 63 and vv. 61-62 is now clear. Already Jesus is establishing the link between his own ascension/glorification (v. 62) and the coming of the Spirit (v. 63; cf. 7:37-39)". Also see Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96.

¹⁶⁰⁹ Lee (1994: 136) opines that the main purpose of vv. 60-71 is to show people's faith response to the revelation.

the continual relation between the Father, Son and the believer.¹⁶¹⁰ The dramatic nature of the dialogue is evident throughout the decision-making aspect of his disciples, i.e., either to stay with or to leave away from Jesus (v. 66; cf. Elam, 1980: 135-207); *fifth*, (analeptically) the former instruction (i.e., vv. 25b-58) branded a “difficult teaching” prompted the disciples’ views, complaints, unbelieving character, betrayal and even turning back, resulting in his “the words that I have spoken to you (i.e., vv. 25-58) are spirit and life” (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 70-4);¹⁶¹¹ *sixth*, (proleptically) it points toward the betrayal and ascension/lifting up of Jesus and *seventh*, the dialogue is instrumental in developing themes like difficult teaching, ascension of the Son of Man, revealing and redeeming (cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 96), spirit that gives life, flesh is useless, spoken words of Jesus, unbelieving (cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 138), relationship of the Father, Son, and the believer, and division among the disciples (cf. Richardson, 1987/1997: 244-8).¹⁶¹³ The narrator also adds themes like Jesus’ knowledge about the betrayal by Judas, and disciples’ turning back (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53). This dialogue functions as a creative, dramatic and persuasive literary piece for the reader (cf. Hitchcock, 1994: 15-24).

8.2.3.3. Sub-Slot Three (6:67-71)

In vv. 67-71,¹⁶¹⁴ another dialogue develops between Jesus and the Twelve (δώδεκα). The context of the dialogue is the situation of the ‘turning back’ of the larger body of disciples (cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 262).¹⁶¹⁶ This situation of unrecognition and rejection by both Jesus and the larger body of disciples prompts Jesus to take initiative for another dialogue with the inner circle, the Twelve (cf. v. 67a).¹⁶¹⁷ Until the climax of the second sub-slot (i.e., v. 66) the disciples followed Jesus as passive observers; but now they are the focus of Jesus’ interaction (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 115-25).¹⁶¹⁸ Dodd (1960: 343) is of the opinion that, “The twelve alone

¹⁶¹⁰ Cf. Newman and Nida, 1980: 212-6; Carson, 1991: 302-3; Brown, 1966: 299-301; Painter, 1993: 281-2.

¹⁶¹¹ It also helps the reader to understand the clues that Jesus’ teaching in vv. 25b-58 is simpler than his teaching (v. 62). Moreover, his final statement in v. 65 is a reproduction of several utterance-units in vv. 25-58.

¹⁶¹² While Jesus makes an implicit reference about his betrayer Judas (v. 64a), the narrator makes it explicit (v. 64b).

¹⁶¹³ Lee (1994: 136) says that, “Jesus reveals more fully the meaning of *ὁ υἱος τοῦ ἀνθρώπου* in the unusual construction referring to himself in the role of Son of Man”.

¹⁶¹⁴ Keener (2003: 695-99) considers vv. 59-71 as a major unit within the episode in 6:1-71, which he subdivides into two: *first*, “Too Hard to Accept?” (6:59-65); and *second*, “Stumbling or Persevering” (6:66-71). His analysis is synonymous to our understanding of the structure of John 6:66-71.

¹⁶¹⁵ There are only two places in the FG where this group of disciples is mentioned, here and in the desolation of the wilderness (13:1-17:26) where Jesus talks alone to the Twelve, the core inner group.

¹⁶¹⁶ In an ‘honor and shame’ centered society, the ‘turning away’ of the disciples from a teacher affects the teacher. Jesus’ dialogue with the nucleus group in vv. 67-71 has to be looked at from this specific context.

¹⁶¹⁷ Bennema (2009: 123) says that, “. . . when there is a sifting of Jesus’ disciples (6:60-66), Jesus asks them whether they also want to quit, to which Peter, as the spokesperson for the Twelve, affirms that Jesus is following (6:67-69)”.

¹⁶¹⁸ Keener (2003: 695-6) says that, “That many of his disciples no longer ‘walked’ with him is a straightforward enough way of saying that they ceased to be his disciples (cf. 8:31); some ancient teachers literally ‘walked’

faithful. This is exemplified by an incident which is the Johannine equivalent of Peter's confession at Caesarea in the synoptics (6:68-70)". The expression οὖν (translated "so" in the NRSV) connects the third sub-slot both with the previous sub-slot (i.e., vv. 60-66) and with the entire episode, especially with the extended third slot (vv. 22-71). The usage καὶ in the question (i.e., v. 67; translated "also" in NRSV, "too" in NIV) connects the third sub-slot with the previous dialogues.¹⁶¹⁹ That means, the setting of the third sub-slot is as same as that of the previous two sub-slots, i.e., the synagogue at Capernaum (vv. 24, 59).¹⁶²⁰ There are three utterance units within the third sub-slot (vv. 67-71), two by Jesus (vv. 67 and 70) and one by Peter (vv. 68-69; see Table 59).

John 6:67-71	Overview
<p>v.67: εἶπεν οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοῖς δώδεκα, Μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς θέλετε ὑπάγειν;</p> <p>v.68: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ Σίμων Πέτρος, Κύριε, πρὸς τίνα ἀπελευσόμεθα; ῥήματα ζωῆς αἰώνου ἔχεις.</p> <p>v.69: καὶ ἡμεῖς πεπιστεύκαμεν καὶ ἐγνώκαμεν ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ ἅγιος τοῦ θεοῦ.</p> <p>v.70: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Οὐκ ἐγὼ ὑμᾶς τοὺς δώδεκα ἐξελέξαμην; καὶ ἐξ ὑμῶν εἷς διάβολός ἐστιν.</p> <p>v.71: ἔλεγεν δὲ τὸν Ἰούδαν Σίμωνος Ἰσκαριώτου· οὗτος γὰρ ἔμελλεν παραδιδόναι αὐτόν, εἷς ἐκ τῶν δώδεκα.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 67-71 is comprised of three utterance units (vv. 67b, 68b-69, 70b); out of the three utterance units two are of Jesus (vv. 67b, 70b) and one is of Simon Peter (vv. 68b-69);</p> <p>(2) While the dialogue in vv. 60-66 begins with the disciples' question (v. 60b) and develops through Jesus' two responses one after another (vv. 61b-64a, 65b), the dialogue in vv. 67-71 begins and ends with Jesus' interrogative statements (vv. 67b, 70b). But, the statement of Simon Peter (vv. 68b-69) is placed at the centre;</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (v. 71) and <i>formula narratives</i> (vv. 67a, 68a, 70a).</p>

Table 59: The dialogue of 6:67-71 within the narratorial framework

The dialogue proper begins with a question of Jesus to the twelve, Μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς θέλετε ὑπάγειν; (v. 67b; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 56).¹⁶²¹ While Peter responds to the question, he represents the voice of the Twelve (cf. v. 68-69; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 115-25).¹⁶²² In his response, he firstly raises a counter-question followed by an explanation about why they do not leave Jesus (vv. 68-69). He begins with the question, Κύριε, πρὸς τίνα ἀπελευσόμεθα; (v. 68a), and then declares their

disciples while lecturing them". He (2003: 696) says further that, "This applied especially (though not exclusively) to the Peripatetics, the Aristotelian school, so named for Aristotle's ambulatory pedagogic method".

¹⁶¹⁹ Here it is important to see how the different levels of dialogues are interknitted together by the narrator.

¹⁶²⁰ A reader can even infer that as this is an exclusive dialogue (cf. vv. 67-71), it would have happened somewhere else, but most probably in the premises of the synagogue at Capernaum.

¹⁶²¹ Robertson (1932: 115) says that, "Jesus puts it with the negative answer (*mē*) expected" (cf. John 21:5). It is a question about who will remain (8:31) and who will fail (cf. 6:6, 66). Jesus' question in 6:67 creates the rhetorical effect of an implicit decision that the person who is being asked the question has to make. In this sense it is an ethical act being performed by the mere asking of the question. One cannot stay neutral after hearing such a question. This way of testing disciples was also well known and used by teachers of antiquity (see Keener, 2003: 696). See for instance, Diogenes Laertius 6.2.21; 6.2.36; 6.2.75-76; 6.5.87; 7.1.22. Cf. Morris, 1995: 344; Carson, 1991: 303-4; Köstenberger, 2004: 220.

¹⁶²² Morris (1995: 343) says that, "Here Peter becomes their spokesman in a magnificent declaration of allegiance and acceptance". Also see Köstenberger, 2004: 221; Blomberg, 2001: 129-30; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 138; Painter, 1993: 283; Bruce, 1983: 164-5.

conviction (vv. 68b-69; cf. Bennema, 2009: 123; Resseguie, 2005: 161).¹⁶²³ In his declaration makes clear that Jesus has ‘the words of eternal life’ (ῥήματα ζωῆς αἰωνίου) and they have to believe and know that Jesus is the Holy One of God’ (καὶ ἡμεῖς πεπιστεύκαμεν καὶ ἐγινώκαμεν ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ ἅγιος τοῦ θεοῦ).¹⁶²⁴ The response of Peter informs the following things: *first*, titles like Κύριε and ὁ ἅγιος τοῦ θεοῦ;¹⁶²⁵ *second*, his possession of ῥήματα ζωῆς αἰωνίου; *third*, the disciples’ position in relation to him (ἡμεῖς πεπιστεύκαμεν καὶ ἐγινώκαμεν). Robertson, 1932: 115-6; Dodd, 1960: 343-4).¹⁶²⁷ Köstenberger (2004: 220) writes the phrase ‘we have believed and come to know’ constitutes a hendiadys expressing the firm conviction arrived at by the Twelve as a result of a thoroughgoing process”. After the utterance of Jesus, here Simon Peter’s utterance is a significant one (i.e., σὺ εἶ ὁ ἅγιος τοῦ θεοῦ, vv. 68b-69). Culpepper, 1983: 120; Neyrey, 2007: 134).¹⁶²⁸ The dialogue ends with a strong hint at the passion of Jesus (vv. 70-71). Jesus’ response in v. 70 has a rhetorical question following the revelation, Οὐκ ἐγὼ ὑμᾶς τοὺς δώδεκα ἐξελεξάμην; καὶ ἐξ ὑμῶν εἷς διάβολός ἐστιν (cf. 1996: 249, 265; see Table 59).¹⁶²⁹ His utterance reveals an important catalyst of the whole John—Judas the betrayer (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 158-9; Lee, 1994: 137).¹⁶³⁰ The pronouncement of Jesus in v. 70 is supported by a narratorial note in v. 71 (cf. Keener, 2008; Chatman, 1978: 17-42).¹⁶³¹ The content of the dialogue is centered on two important things:

¹⁶²³ The context in which Jesus was suffering from unrecognition and rejection by both the Jews and the lack of disciples, Peter’s addressing Κύριε makes much sense.

¹⁶²⁴ Moloney (1998: 229; cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 262-3) says that, “Simon Peter answers for them all, indicating that the Father does not fail to draw believing disciples toward Jesus (cf. v. 65): ‘Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words (ῥήματα) of eternal life’”.

¹⁶²⁵ Morris (1995: 345; cf. Dodd, 1960: 343-4; Painter, 1993: 283) states that, “‘The Holy One of God’ is a description of Jesus; in fact, it is applied to him on only one other occasion in the New Testament, when the possessed man addressed him in the synagogue in Capernaum (Mark 1:24; Luke 4:34)”.

¹⁶²⁶ Moloney (1998: 232; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 56) says that, “Both verbs (i.e., πεπιστεύκαμεν καὶ ἐγινώκαμεν) are in the perfect tense. Peter tells of belief and knowledge that began in the disciples sometime in the past, and is part of their association with Jesus”.

¹⁶²⁷ Culpepper (1983: 120) is of the opinion that, “The Johannine equivalent to Peter’s confession at Caesarea is his confession at the crisis, ‘Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life; and we have believed and have come to know that you are the Holy One of God’ (6:68-69)”. Cf. Morris, 1995: 344-5; Carson, 1991: 19; Blomberg, 2001: 129-30; Bruce, 1983: 164-6.

¹⁶²⁸ The vocabulary of Peter’s confession is typically Johannine: “we believe”, “know”, “words of eternal life”, “Holy One of God”. Cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 263; Domeris, 1993: 155-67; Witherington, 1995: 161; Moloney, 1998: 232; Morris, 1995: 345; Carson, 1991: 303-4; Bruce, 1983: 164-6; Painter, 1993: 283; Dodd, 1960: 343-4.

¹⁶²⁹ The same thing happens in John 4:1-42 where Jesus asks the Samaritan woman some questions and then turns himself to her. Quast (1991/1996: 56) says that, “The all-embracing life-giving quality of Jesus’ words are the disciples and, in spite of their difficulty, the twelve have decided to accept his words rather than turn away from Jesus”. But, Judas Iscariot stands out as an exception.

¹⁶³⁰ Moloney (1998: 229; cf. Painter, 1993: 283) opines that, “The shadow of a violent death, which has faded from much of the celebration of the Passover (cf. vv. 12-13, 15, 27, 51, 53-54), again emerges as the account of the activity on the occasion of the feast comes to a close (vv. 70-71)”. In v. 70, the narratorial comment of v. 64 is put into the mouth of Jesus (v. 70).

¹⁶³¹ Resseguie (2005: 159) says that, “Judas neither speaks nor acts. Rather Jesus mentions Judas while the narrator interprets what he meant”. Cf. Morris, 1995: 345-6; Bruce, 1983: 164-6; Painter, 1993: 283; Dodd, 1960: 4; Dodd, 1963: 196.

first is the belief-affirmation of the Twelve. The second is Jesus' revelation of the 'devil' from the Twelve.

The form of the dialogue can be analysed as follows. The character-range of the third slot (vv. 22-71) narrows down from a crowd to the Twelve. John's methodological shift from section to section is obvious in the larger episode. It is a conspicuous factor that the narrator is style oriented and he develops his own methodology in order to present dialogues both systematically and contextually. The *narrowing-down* of the audience (i.e., from the crowd, vv. 22-59, to the larger group of disciples, vv. 60-66, to the Twelve, vv. 67-71) is a narratorial device in order to arrive at the focus. The teaching/discipleship intent of the larger episode is evident through these narratorial performances. According to Collins (1990: 80; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 115-25; Schenke, 1997: 209), "The fourth evangelist's views on the twelve are summed up in a small pericope, which has been structured into a single unit of material by a kind of *inclusio*: John 6:67-71. Δώδεκα, 'twelve', is the only term that appears in both verses 67 and 71".¹⁶³² The dialogue develops within that *inclusio* by sustaining utterance forms like *questions* (testing, surprise, and rhetorical; vv. 67b, 68b, 70b),¹⁶³³ *affirmation* (v. 68b),¹⁶³⁴ *christological utterance* (v. 69)¹⁶³⁵ and *belief* (vv. 68b-69)¹⁶³⁶ and *revelatory statements* (v. 70b; see Table 60).¹⁶³⁷

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Testing question	Do you also wish to go away?
Peter	Surprise question, affirmation, belief statement, Christological utterance/confession	Disciples can go nowhere because Jesus has the words of eternal life; Disciples come to believe and know that Jesus is the Holy One of God
Jesus	Question, revelatory statement	Jesus chose the twelve, but one of them is a devil

Table 60: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 6:67-71

The unrecognition and rejection of Jesus by the masses caused him to pose an important question to the inner circle of disciples (v. 67). Morris (1995: 344) says that, "It is a dramatic moment as Jesus challenges the Twelve Now Jesus puts the question to them: 'You do not want to leave me, do you?' The form in which the question is put shows that a negative answer is expected.

¹⁶³² Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 74) states that, "Since the contrast between the disciples who fall back in disappointment and disbelief and the Twelve who remain steadfast to Jesus in faith is deliberate, this remark should not be seen as the conclusion of the preceding dispute (60-65), but as a starting-point for Jesus' question to the Twelve; this is confirmed by the beginning of 67 (οὐν)". Cf. Morris, 1995: 344-6; Kanagaraj, 2005: 224-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 97; Bruce, 1983: 164-6.

¹⁶³³ There are three kinds of questions present here: *first*, Jesus' testing question to know their sincerity in following him; *second*, disciples' awe is expressed through Peter's question in v. 68b; and *third*, the rhetorical question of Jesus in v. 70b.

¹⁶³⁴ Peter's statement in v. 68b (i.e., 'you have the words of eternal life') is an affirmation of a fact or reality.

¹⁶³⁵ Peter's utterance in v. 69 is both the continuation of the previous affirmation statement and a christological utterance.

¹⁶³⁶ The utterance begins with 'we have come to believe . . .' (v. 69) shows the belief declaration of the Twelve.

¹⁶³⁷ Jesus' final statement (v. 70b) is revelatory as it reveals an important factor, the role of Judas Iscariot.

Jesus confidently looks for loyalty from these men”.¹⁶³⁸ Three things can be seen in response in vv. 68-69: *first*, a counter question that is patterned in a rhetorical way (*second*, an eternal life-centered pronouncement (vv. 68b); and *third*, a statement/christological utterance (v. 69).¹⁶³⁹ Jesus raises a *question* (v. 67b), Peter responds to the *counter question* followed by an *affirmation* (vv. 68b-69), and Jesus’ final response is a *rhetorical question* followed by a *revelation* (v. 70b). The common factors in all three utterance units are the interrogative statements (cf. vv. 67, 68a, 70a). Peter’s affirmation (vv. 68b-69) and Jesus’ revelation (v. 70b) are the kernel points of the dialogue (cf. Bennema, 2009: 123-1999: 163-4).¹⁶⁴⁰ The *narrative, utterance, narrative, and utterance* sequence of the previous slot (vv. 60-66; see Diagram 37) is followed by an *utterance, utterance, utterance, and narrative* sequence here (vv. 67-71; see Diagram 38).¹⁶⁴¹

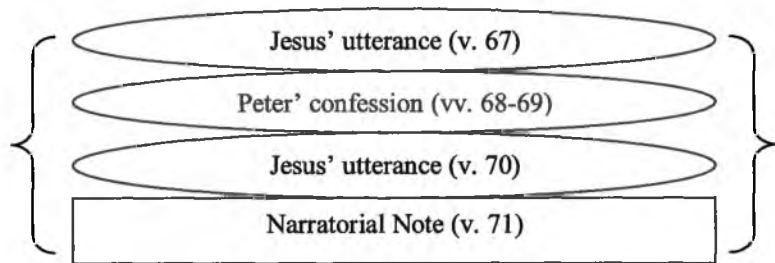


Diagram 38: The development of utterances and narratives

The belief-affirmation of Peter (vv. 68-69) is sandwiched between two emotion-filled questions from Jesus (vv. 67 and 70; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 115-25; see Diagram 38).¹⁶⁴² The Twelve are asked to be on the believing-side in contrast to the majority of the Jews and the disciples who ‘turn away’. Köstenberger (2004: 220) says that, “Jesus’ statement regarding his choice of the Twelve

¹⁶³⁸ Quast (1991/1996: 56) says that, “The emphasis may have been intended to confirm their faith as they were falling away”. Cf. Blomberg, 2001: 129-30; Painter, 1993: 283-4; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 97; Bruce, 1983: 123-4.

¹⁶³⁹ Painter (1993: 283) is of the view that, “The use of this title in Peter’s confession has been something of a *hapax legomenon*. Because it is a *hapax legomenon* in John it is not likely that it represents an important Johannine title”. See also, S. 1995: 344-5; Dodd, 1960: 343-4; Bruce, 1983: 164-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 97; Painter, 1993: 283.

¹⁶⁴⁰ Duke (1985: 96) says that, “When he [i.e., Peter] makes his confession (6:68-69) it is genuinely moving and different from its synoptic equivalent (Mark 8:29 par.), equally ignorant of the dimension of suffering, and firmly situated in the context of desertion (6:66-67) and betrayal (6:70-71)”.

¹⁶⁴¹ While in the second sub-slot (vv. 60-66) every utterance unit is supplemented by pure narratorial comments (vv. 59-60a, 61a, 64b, 66), in the third sub-slot (vv. 67-71) there is only one pure narrative that comes toward the end of the episode (v. 71).

¹⁶⁴² The Chiasm of the dialogue can be outlined as follows: A = Jesus’ First response out of a context of departure (v. 67b); B = Peter’s Christological confession (vv. 68-69); and A’ = Jesus’ Second response at departure (v. 70). Cf. Talbert, 1992: 140; Painter, 1993: 283; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 97; Bruce, 1983: 123-4. Combining the two sub-slots (i.e., vv. 60-66, 67-71) one can notice a chiasm where Peter’s confession is bracketed by two negative responses (vv. 60-65, 66-68, 69-71). It is arranged as follows: A = Negative: Prediction of Betrayal of disciples (6:60-65); B = Positive: Confession of Peter (6:66-68); and A’ = Negative: Prediction of Betrayal of disciples (6:69-71).

sharply contrasted with the designation of Judas (the betrayer, 6:71) as ‘a devil’.¹⁶⁴³ Jesus finds Judas Iscariot as the ‘odd one out’ from the Twelve.¹⁶⁴⁴ The irony of the dialogue lies there (cf. Sedgewick, 1948). Jesus’ rhetorical question in v. 70a and the subsequent contrasting statement in v. 70b lead the reader toward the conclusion of the episode. The narratorial note in v. 71 reemphasises Jesus’ utterance in v. 70.¹⁶⁴⁵ Neyrey (2007: 133) says that, “The circle of disciples, then, is stricken with rejection, lukewarmness, and deception. The mode of discourse is painfully one of challenge and riposte”. The dramatic climax of the larger story through its performative language makes a significant impact upon the reader and s/he is able to personally identify (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Brant, 2004: 196). The *question-and-answer/challenge-and-riposte* format of the dialogue is instrumental in bringing out the role of Jesus as a revelator. It also brings out the faith-concerns and the ironical aspects within the ‘inner circle’ of disciples.

The dialogue functions primarily as a device that separates the believing from the larger body of unbelieving, and separates the betrayer from the believing. Though the dialogue between Jesus and the Twelve look independent from the previous dialogues (vv. 67-71), it derives meaning through interconnection with the previous ones. In the previous sections, Jesus was answering the questions of the crowd/larger group of disciples without apparent strong emotion (vv. 22-66); but in vv. 67-71 his mental temper surges toward the ‘inner circle’, the Twelve.¹⁶⁴⁶ In the episode, the analeptic connection of the sub-slot with the previous sections gains significance and which helps to generate suspense in the reader. The reader now, begins to think about the future of Jesus the protagonist. Revealing the real identity of Jesus through the utterance of Peter (i.e., ὁ ἅγιος τοῦ θεοῦ, vv. 68-69)¹⁶⁴⁷ and Jesus’ own revelation about the role of Judas (i.e., διάβολός) are important aspects within the story.¹⁶⁴⁸

The focalisation of Jesus’ character as ‘the Holy One of God’ and Judas’ character as a ‘Devil’ and ‘one who betrays’ (ἐμελλεν παραδιδόναι αὐτόν, v. 70; cf. 64b and 71)¹⁶⁴⁹ broaches

¹⁶⁴³ Resseguie (2005: 159; cf. Painter, 1993: 283) states that, “The cosmic struggle between light and darkness, God and Satan, is played out on the human level in the character of Judas”. Wallace (1996: 265) states that, “. . . although the majority of translations treat διάβολός as indefinite (because of the English tradition of the KJV), there is only one devil. Hence, since it is a monadic noun, the meaning is ‘one of you is *the* devil’”.

¹⁶⁴⁴ Strachan (1941: 197) says that, “Judas did a worse thing than go back. He remained as an enemy—perhaps not realizing how great an enemy—within the small fellowship. His secular outlook is a continual centre of hostility within the disciple band”.

¹⁶⁴⁵ Dodd (1960: 344) says that, “As the synoptics add to the confession a prediction of the Passion, so John adds to it a forecast of the betrayal (6:70-71)”. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 164-7; Blomberg, 2001: 129-30; Dodd, 1963: 196.

¹⁶⁴⁶ Cf. Painter, 1993: 283-4; Bruce, 1983: 164-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 97; Morris, 1995: 344-6.

¹⁶⁴⁷ Neyrey (2007: 134) says that, “Basically, Peter admits that Jesus is God’s agent, for the background of ‘holy one’ in the Scriptures refers to a person consecrated to God; that is, ‘set apart’ holy tasks”.

¹⁶⁴⁸ Keener (2003: 697) is of the view that, “The focus of this passage is Peter’s Christological confession, which replaces the ‘Christ’ confession of Markan tradition (Mark 8:29). John may prefer the ‘Holy One of God’ title (cf. Rev 3:7; Acts 3:14; applied to Jesus in earlier gospel tradition by beings with superhuman knowledge—Mark 1:24) to convey a diversity of Christological titles and roles (cf. John 1:1, 9, 18, 34, 36), just as Matthew may add ‘Son of the living God’ in Matthew 16:16”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 97; Carson, 1991: 303-4.

¹⁶⁴⁹ Judas is also called a ‘devil’ (Gk. διάβολός) in v. 70 (cf. Keener, 2003: 697). Strachan (1941: 197-98) says that, “Jesus here calls him *a devil*. John evidently gives the full meaning to the epithet, regarding him as one who secretly

anticipation/suspense about the climax of the Johannine story.¹⁶⁵⁰ The ‘Holy One of God’ ‘betrayers’ (or ‘devils’) have been identified with clear narratorial intention and the Johannine has been set for the anticipated passion/crucifixion/resurrection/glorification/hour/lifting up of the Son of Man (cf. Dodd, 1960: 344; Painter, 1993: 286). As Culpepper (1983: 92) says, “the optimism of the early chapters collapse, and there is cause for real doubt as to whether Jesus will be able to execute his mission successfully. If it were not for the prologue and the early chapters, the reader would be fearful that the forces of unbelief were on their way to complete victory. The tension generates a kind of alacrity among the reading community to flourish the act of faith with greater anticipation and optimism. The narrator questions the reader along with the characters and call on them to think about their faith (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 75). In sum, the Gospel generates anticipation in the mind of the reader and invites her/him toward believing in Jesus.”

8.3. Meso-Analysis¹⁶⁵¹

In the previous sections, we have been able to visualise the way dialogues function within the larger literary framework of the episode. As the first slot (vv. 1-15) takes place on a mountain and the narrative is structured within a *mountain to mountain inclusion*,¹⁶⁵² the dialogue can be seen as a ‘mountain dialogue’. It shows tenets of *narrative, dialogue, narrative* and *dialogue sequence* as *question of test, answer of impossibility* and *action of possibility* development and characteristic features like *inclusion within an inclusion, revelatory dynamics* and *intertextual resoundings*.¹⁶⁵³ The *dialogue-action-dialogue* format of the slot reveals Jesus’ role as ‘the

and deliberately in will and purpose, set himself against the will and purpose of Jesus, which is the will and purpose of God (cf. 13:2, 27)”.

¹⁶⁵⁰ Moloney (1997: 131) states that, “. . . even among those who commit themselves to the word of Jesus, the possibility of failure, as Jesus warns of Judas’ future betrayal”. See Köstenberger, 2004: 222; Beasley-Murray, 1997; Bruce, 1983: 164-7; Painter, 1993: 283-4.

¹⁶⁵¹ Some noticeable factors between chapters five and six are: *first*, in both the chapters, Jesus begins with signs and then goes on testifying about his divinity and equality with the Father; *second*, whereas in chapter five the latter section (5:19-47) is exclusively narrated in a monologue, in chapter six the succeeding section (6:25-71) is in a dialogical-discourse format; and *third*, in chapter five the healing is delineated in the form of a five-scene monologue, and in chapter six there are two signs (i.e., Feeding the Five Thousand and Jesus Walking on the Water) narrated in closer connection with the succeeding dialogues. The ‘response’ of the disciples (words and actions) was one of the primary targets of Jesus. Jesus as the one who tests and provokes the disciples to respond in dialogue and finally acts by himself reveals a new side of his character to the public. Cf. Carson, 1991: 27-28; Moloney, 1998: 193-206, 207-32; Morris, 1995: 302-10, 311-46; Köstenberger, 2004: 119-205, 206-22; Keener, 2003: 663-75, 675-99. Keener (2003: 665) says that, “Jesus’ signs in the Gospel test the response of those who witness them and here Jesus tests the faith of his disciples in advance”.

¹⁶⁵² See the expressions: “Jesus went up *the mountain* and sat down there with his disciples” (v. 3) and “Jesus withdrew again to *the mountain* by himself” (v. 15). Cf. Moloney, 1998: 195-201; Köstenberger, 2004: 222-23; Keener, 2003: 663-71; Carson, 1991: 267-73; Westcott, 1958: 95-8; Brown, 1966: 232-50; Sanders and Metzger, 1975-82; Tenney, 1984: 111-5.

¹⁶⁵³ All these features contribute for the rhetorical impact of the slot. A paradigmatic reader of the story is gripped into the text through these narratorial dynamics. Jesus’ act of breaking the bread in the first slot and his discourse in the third slot centered on “I am the Bread of Life” are contributory to one another. Cf. Morris,

to come' and it persuades the reader to be, her/himself, a dialoguing and an action-oriented follower of Jesus. The second slot (vv. 16-21) is both *abbreviated and implicit*, and develops from *separation to reunion*, from *elusiveness to revelation*, and from *non-recognition to recognition*. It takes place in the context of a sea and hence can be perceived as a 'sea dialogue'.¹⁶⁵⁴ The main tenet of the dialogue in vv. 16-21 is its *action-dialogue-action-dialogue* sequence. This format of the dialogue reveals Jesus' identity as the 'I AM' and persuades the reader toward the peculiar Christology of the episode (see Table 61).

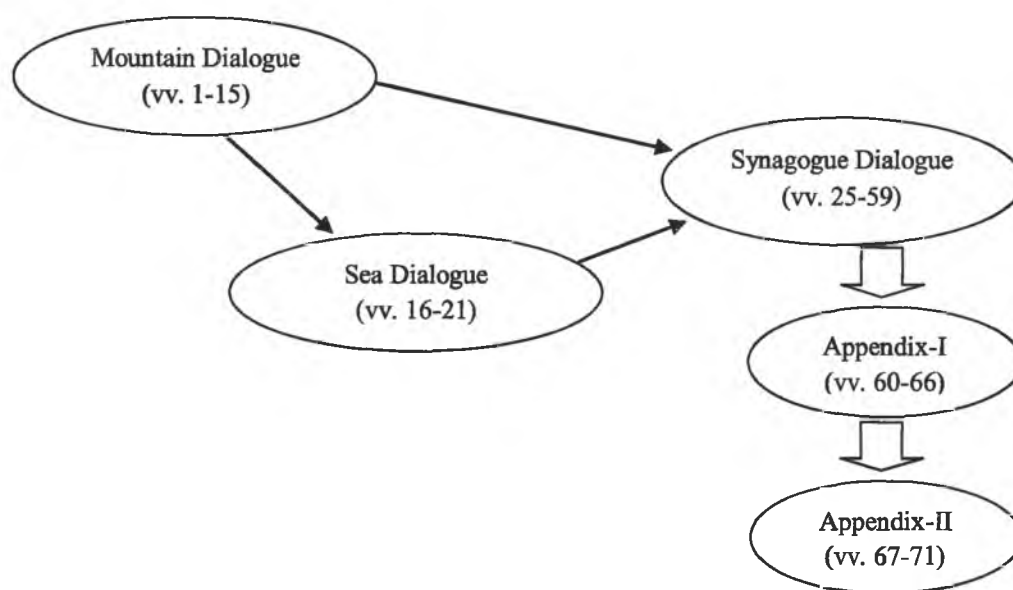


Diagram 39: The Slot-development of the episode

The third slot (vv. 22-71) is the longest section in the episode and has developed in a *trilateral* format (sub-slots one, two and three; cf. vv. 22-59, 60-66, 67-71) in a synagogue set up; hence can be understood as a 'synagogue dialogue' (see Diagram 39). But the overarching tenet of the slot is its *question-and-answer* format. In the first sub-slot (vv. 22-59), the dialogue develops from *separation to reunion*. The nature of the dialogue is *vertical and horizontal, dramatic and conflictive and metaphorical*¹⁶⁵⁵ and *homiletical*. The second sub-slot (vv. 60-66) is mostly *narrative, utterance, narrative*, and *utterance* sequential and *antithetical* (cf. Denning-Bolle, 1992:

46; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 175-200; Westcott, 1958: 95-115; Brown, 1966: 232-303; Carson, 1991: 267-304; Tenney, 1984: 111-25; Moloney, 1998: 195-201; Keener, 2003: 663-99; Köstenberger, 2004: 199-222.

¹⁶⁵⁴ Jesus' authority over the sea and his utterance "It is I; do not be afraid" have to be seen together. Here also his action and words are synonymous. Cf. Westcott, 1958: 98-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 204-5; Carson, 1991: 273-6; Keener, 2003: 671-5; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 182-4; Tenney, 1984: 115-6; Moloney, 1998: 195-202; Brown, 1966: 251-6; Morris, 1995: 307-10; Westcott, 1958: 95-115.

¹⁶⁵⁵ Mooij (1976: 14; cf. Goatly, 1997: 1; Levin, 1977: 1) says that, "... metaphors are powerful tools whenever we are exploring, describing, interpreting or elucidating new situations, because metaphors enable us to describe, interpret and elucidate..." Johannine metaphors, especially the metaphor of bread, are powerful tools to interpret the actions and utterances of Jesus.

69-84).¹⁶⁵⁶ The third sub-slot (67-71) is *belief and confirmation centered*, developing from *to separation* as the antagonist [i.e., Judas] is separated from the nucleus of the ‘believing the Twelve’; see Diagram 39). All these tenets are attached to the *question-and-answer* for the slot. Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 175-6; cf. Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95) say that, “A v of . . . pattern unfolds in chap. 6. Here the stories of the feeding miracle (6:1-14) and o appearance on the water (6:16-21) prompt a dialogue between Jesus and the people wh after him (6:25 onward). This dialogue then changes imperceptibly, from an exchange b Jesus and Jews who object to what he is saying to a conversation between Jesus a disciples”.¹⁶⁵⁷ While the second slot (vv. 16-21) is a further development of the first slot (v and both of them maintain sign-centered dialogic formats, the first sub-slot of the third s 22-59) is thematically connected to the first slot. The second (vv. 60-66) and third (vv. 67- slots function as appendixes to the first sub-slot (see Diagram 39).¹⁶⁵⁸

While the first two slots maintain their sign-centered nature by the help of both expl implicit dialogic interactions, the third slot as a whole is a concentrated dialogue section am’ statements of Jesus in the third slot clearly reveal his oracles of self-commendation 41, 48; cf. v. 20). Duszak (2002: 223) sees ‘discourse’ as a powerful way of communicat suggests that in the process of communication one must be aware of ‘words’ (cf. Van Dij 107-24). In the bread discourse, the entire dialogue is circumscribed around core expressi “I am bread of life” and “bread from heaven” (cf. Van der Watt, 2007b: 186-200). Placi expressions at the centre, John introduces a discourse in dialogic form with speech tendenc entire dialogue is inserted within an *interrogative inclusion* between vv. 25 and Furthermore, Johannine eschatological (vv. 27, 39, 40, 44, 47, 54, 58, 68) and sacramenta (vv. 52-58, 63, 68-69) appear all through the narrative as connecting terms in order to three sub-slots together. John validates the figure of Jesus as having authority, vigour, inte and courage to speak the truth; yet the Jewish crowd’s refusal to acknowledge his sonship as the disciples’ refusal) challenges the reader to get involve in a dialogue with the narrator

The quoting formulas are mostly in the historical present, as follows: λέγει (vv. 5b, 8, ἔλεγεν (v. 65a), ἔλεγον (vv. 14, 42a), ἀπεκρίθη (vv. 7a, 26a, 29a, 43a, 68a, 70a), εἶπεν 32a, 35a, 53a, 61a, 67a), εἶπαν (v. 60a), εἶπον (vv. 25b, 28a, 30a, 34a) and λέγοντες

¹⁶⁵⁶ Read more details about the stylistics of drama, Tan, 1993: 28-81; Warren and Wellek, 1955: 180-1.

¹⁶⁵⁷ Van der Watt (2007b: 186) is of the opinion that, “John 6 is one of the most discussed sections in according to John. It focuses on Jesus feeding a large crowd both physically (John 6:1-12) and spiritually (59) by the Sea of Galilee (John 6:1, 59)”.

¹⁶⁵⁸ What Mukařovský (1972: 223) says is appropriate to quote here: “. . . a dialogue . . . structured tends t both phonetically and semantically, as a single uninterrupted phonetic and semantic band, as changing as m bunting”.

¹⁶⁵⁹ The episode in 6:1-71 deals with several questions and counter-questions. The dialogue is moving forv basis of the quests of the crowd/Jews and the disciples/Twelve. For details about the use of questions in d Plato, refer to Santas, 1979. Cf. Brown, 1966: 232-303; Keener, 2003: 663-99; Sanders and Mastin, 1968 Westcott, 1958: 95-115; Morris, 1995: 300-46; Carson, 1991: 267-304; Tenney, 1984: 111-25; Köstenbe 199-222; Moloney, 1998: 195-207, 229-32.

These formulas make the narrator's role more vivid despite characterial utterances being in clear view (cf. Bal, 2004).¹⁶⁶⁰ Culpepper (1983: 31-2) is of the opinion that, "... the historical presents in John are often used to place the reader within scenes, and occasionally to score a polemical point".¹⁶⁶¹ The narratives play a vital role at the intervals of utterance-units (cf. vv. 25a, 41, 49, 61a, 64b, 66 and 71) as they add dramatic tension within the episode (cf. Barry, 1970: 10-51; Conway, 2002: 479-95).¹⁶⁶² The 'murmuring' (Gk. ἐγόγγυζον) scene in v. 41, 'arguing' (Gk. ἐμάχοντο) scene in v. 52, and 'grumbling' (Gk. γογγύουσιν) scene in vv. 60-61 are implicitly introduced as 'community dialogues' (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 127). John's story telling tactic of inserting 'active voice' forms and other streams of talk-forms draws the careful attention of the reader.¹⁶⁶³ Jesus' active role as a dialoguer and his confrontation with his listeners brings sharp conflict to the episode (cf. Harrop, 1992: 10-6). The Johannine community concerns over against other majority cultures are reflected through the dialogic interactions of the characters. In order to sharpen the conflicts, plot features such as *reversal*, *recognition* and *suffering* are integrally embedded within this dramatic narrative.¹⁶⁶⁴ Jesus is pictured as a charismatic figure with power from above, arguing, preaching, teaching, inviting, and directing his interlocutors toward a 'new space'.¹⁶⁶⁵ The usage of agency-portrayal is at the kernel of John 6:21-71.¹⁶⁶⁶ John blends dialogue

¹⁶⁶⁰ Culpepper (1983: 31) is of the opinion that, "Past tense verbs are used to describe the scene and move the action along, but the dialogue is consistently introduced by λέγει . . ."

¹⁶⁶¹ He (1983: 32) further says that, "While they are not as important as the narrator's retrospective point of view, their effect should not be overlooked". According to Kysar (1992: 916), "The narratives of the gospel are often told in a dramatic style. They progress in deliberate stages which constitute scenes and evoke a sense of suspense as the narrative moves forward".

¹⁶⁶² The Jewish gladness at the beginning of the episode turns to 'murmur' (Gk. ἐγόγγυζον, cf. v. 41) and then to 'argument' (Gk. ἐμάχοντο, cf. v. 52). Similarly, the disciples start 'grumbling' (Gk. γογγύουσιν, v. 61) against the protagonist. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 93; Carson, 1991: 292, 295-6, 300; Köstenberger, 2004: 213, 215, 218; Moloney, 1998: 217, 221, 227; Morris, 1995: 327, 334, 338-9.

¹⁶⁶³ According to Lindars (1990: 36), "some of the discourses begin with a narrative form the tradition (e.g., 5:1-9; 6:1-21), which serves the same purpose as a passage from scripture. When this happens, John inserts dialogue to make the transition to the discourse (cf. 5:10-18; 6:22-30)".

¹⁶⁶⁴ Along with all these, as Hitchcock (1923/1993: 15) says, the Johannine drama develops with other features as follows: "The vividness, variety and progress of the scenes, together with the number, individuality, and distinctness of the characters; the play of question and retort; the pointed and allusive manner of the Master's sayings; the reality of His surroundings; and the growing interest of the narrative, give dramatic force and movement to the work". Cf. Brant, 2004; Moloney, 1998: 193-232; Brown, 1966: 232-303; Keener, 2003: 663-99; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 175-200; Tenney, 1984: 111-25; Morris, 1995: 300-46; Köstenberger, 2004: 199-222; Westcott, 1958: 95-115.

¹⁶⁶⁵ Johannine central themes like 'Jesus as one from above', 'eternal life', 'I am', 'bread of life', 'Son of Man', 'Holy One of God', and 'Moses/manna/exodus' take hold all through the discussions. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 199-222; Tenney, 1984: 111-25; Brown, 1966: 232-303; Carson, 1991: 267-304; Keener, 2003: 663-99; Moloney, 1998: 193-232; Westcott, 1958: 95-115; Morris, 1995: 300-46; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 175-200.

¹⁶⁶⁶ The Jewish concept of agency, which involved a legal relationship as much as anything else can be summed up in the key phrase: "A person's agent is as himself". An agent is a person authorized to perform some specific set of tasks and empowered to speak and act for the one sending the person. Witherington (1995: 140) says that, "If the Fourth Evangelist is using the Jewish concept of agency to describe Jesus' relationship with the Father, this will explain why it is said that the Son can do only what the Father authorises him to do, or again, the Son can go only what the Father authorises him to go somewhere". Taskar (1995: 95-6) opines that, "A most noticeable feature of the last part of this discourse is the way in which the miraculous feeding of the Galilean multitude, the death of Jesus on the cross, and teaching relevant to the sacrament of Holy Communion are all blended together". See Witherington, 1995: 140;

and other dramatic features, Christology and soteriology, and eschatology and sacr teachings together in order to formulate his narratives (cf. Keener, 2003: 663; Bowles, 2 30).¹⁶⁶⁷ The central dialogue section discloses layers of meaning, i.e., *ideational*, *interp* and *textual*.¹⁶⁶⁸ One of the characteristic features of the episode is its presentation of the ch in a distinctive way (cf. Harrop, 1992: 10-6; see Diagram 40).¹⁶⁶⁹

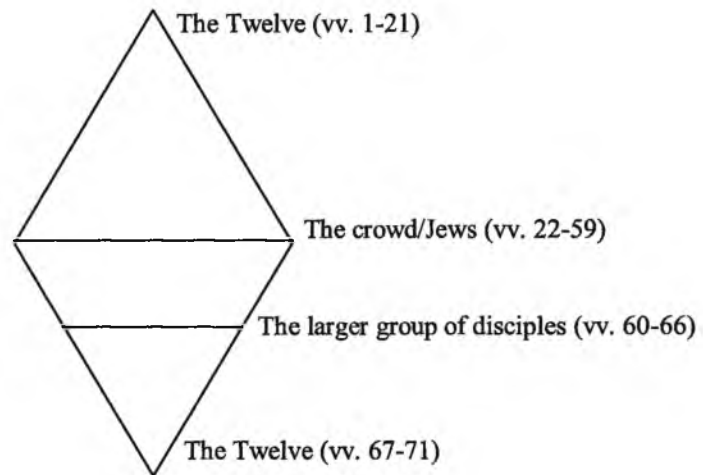


Diagram 40: The charactorial development of the episode

The peculiar charactorial development provides a new shape and framework for the dial Beacham, 1993: 114-5; see Diagram 40), from a dialogue between Jesus and the (especially the Twelve) at the beginning the episode to one between Jesus and the crow finally to one between Jesus and disciples.¹⁶⁷⁰ Painter is right when he identifies an inte

Morris, 1995: 300-46; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 175-200; Tenney, 1984: 111-25; Köstenberger, 2004 Keener, 2003: 663-99; Westcott, 1958: 95-115; Moloney, 1998: 232; Brown, 1966: 232-303.

¹⁶⁶⁷ Painter (1993: 254) says as follows: "Neither Jews (6: 41-59) nor the mass of disciples (6: 60-66) spe though he does know what was being said about him and reacts with pronouncements in the form of ultim bring out the lack of genuine dialogue. There are dialogues between Jesus and the disciples [the twelve] and portrayed as potential disciples. Indeed the dialogical pattern is strongest in 6: 22-35 dealing with Jesus and This section stresses the initiative of the crowd and the responsiveness of Jesus to their approach".

¹⁶⁶⁸ The *ideational* refers to what is being said or described; the *interpersonal* looks to the personal qual communicating partners; and the *textual* pertains to the qualities of language to form units of meaning at a l than the sentence, for example, by means of cohesion of paragraphs into some whole. Again, what o *ideational*, with whom one speaks is *interpersonal*, and how one speaks is *textual*. Cf. Halliday, 1978: 28-36 ¹⁶⁶⁹ The characterisation of the story develops in a peculiar way: *first*, in vv. 1-21, the disciples are the inter Jesus; *second*, in vv. 22-59, Jesus addresses a larger group of people, the crowd/Jews; *third*, in vv. interlocutors are a smaller group in comparison to the larger group of people in the previous scene; and fo 67-71, as in the case of the first slot, here Jesus returns to the Twelve. This feature provides a specific sh characterization of the story (see Diagram 40). See Tenney, 1984: 111-25; Keener, 2003: 663-99; Sanders : 1968: 175-200; Köstenberger, 2004: 199-222; Brown, 1966: 232-303; Westcott, 1958: 95-115.

¹⁶⁷⁰ Beacham (1993: 114) says that, "The actor carries the action. Without him there can be no action an drama". Bailey and Broek (1992: 175-6) say that, "This dialogue then changes imperceptibly, from a between Jesus and Jews who object to what he is saying to a conversation between Jesus and his discip extent of Jesus' separate speeches tends to increase and then decrease".

nature of dialogue between Jesus and his interlocutors. He (1993: 254) comments, “In the dialogues between Jesus and the crowd (6:22-35) there are four sayings of the crowd to Jesus (6: 25, 28, 30, 34) and four *responses* by Jesus to the crowd (6: 26, 29, 32, 35). This makes clear the initiative of the crowd and the responsive nature of Jesus’ sayings”.¹⁶⁷¹ The dialogues of John develop in different settings on the basis of the movements of Jesus and create an *episodic chiasmus* within the larger framework of the gospel, as follows:

- A Judean narrative (5:1-47)
- B Galilean narrative (6:1-21)
- C Galilean narrative (6:22-71)
- B' Galilean narrative (7:1-9)
- A' Judean narrative (7:10-36)

In the *episodic chiasmus* above one can observe way the narrator arranges slots and episodes on a geographical basis (i.e., A and A': a pair of Judean narratives, 5:1-47 and 7:10-36; B and B': a pair of Galilean narratives, 6:1-21 and 7:1-9; and C: a Galilean narrative at the centre, 6:22-71).¹⁶⁷² The narratives and the utterance units inseparably co-exist within the episode (cf. Irudaya, 2003: 708-9; Taylor, 1984: 33-41). The narrator’s attempt to embellish the episode is reflected through the settings, characterisation formulas (see Diagram 40), reality effects, thematic development, implicit commentary, inter-textual interweaving, point of view, and plot structure within the episode (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 80-8; Poland, 1985: 107-48; see Table 61).¹⁶⁷³ All these elements help the narrator to present the story performatively before the reader. The discreet movements of the dialogical (*dialogisch*, as [Ricoeur, 1985: 171] says) relation established within the episode provide strength to the plot structure. The plot of the story is further strengthened by the incidents, episodes, actions, as well as, the suspense and surprise of the narrative (cf. Brooks, 1984: 5; Copley, 2001: 4-6).¹⁶⁷⁴ As a persuasive literary art, the episode provides pleasure for the reader (cf.

¹⁶⁷¹ Painter (1993: 254) says about the next level of dialogue within the episode in the following way: “Neither the Jews (6: 41-59) nor the mass of disciples (6: 60-66) speak to Jesus though Jesus does react in two stages (6: 43, 53 and 6: 61, 65) to what he knows they are saying about him (6: 43, 53 and 6: 61, 65). It may be that here also we are meant to think in terms of Jesus’ supernatural knowledge”. Painter (1993: 254) says about the third sub-slot as follows: “In the dialogue between Jesus and the twelve two sayings of Jesus are introduced (6: 67, 70) and one by Peter speaking for the twelve (6: 68)”.

¹⁶⁷² Dodd (1963: 318) says that, “In general, the answers which Jesus gives to his questioners, in the synoptic dialogues, are such as to encourage or provoke them to answer their own questions. This is not so in the Fourth Gospel”. He (1963: 318) continues saying that, “It is true that the entire gospel challenges its reader, often by irony, paradox, or riddling speech, to dig more deeply, but the *dramatis personae* do not set him an example. In the main, at any rate, their role is passive and they serve as foils”. The dialogue functions as a discourse arranged in dialogue form follows *question-and-answer* sequence, forms community dialogues, revelatory as it discloses new knowledge about the identity of Jesus, and develops from smaller group to larger and, again, to smaller group. Cf. Morris, 1995: 300-46; Carson, 1991: 267-304; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 175-200; Moloney, 1998: 193-232; Brown, 1966: 232-303; Keener, 2003: 663-99; Tenney, 1984: 111-25; Köstenberger, 2004: 199-222; Westcott, 1958: 95-115.

¹⁶⁷³ For more details about John’s distinctive way of narrating things, refer to Lieu, 2005: 171-83; Falk, 1971: 42-50; Wilder, 1991: 12-36.

¹⁶⁷⁴ Aristotle defined plot (*mythos*) as the “arrangement of incidents” (cf. Chatman, 1978:43).

Van Dijk, 1976: 23-55; Louw, 1992: 17-30).¹⁶⁷⁵ The ideological struggle between the ‘from above’ and the ‘from below’ (cf. De Jonge, 1977) and the New Manna, New Moses, and New Motifs (cf. Watson, 2013: 304-15; Culpepper, 1983: 195-7)¹⁶⁷⁶ are paradigms of the dialogic framework from the reader’s point of view. Though Painter (1993: 253-86) suggests the genre of 6:1-71 on the basis of the overall narratorial framework, to be a *quest story* (vv. 1-35) to *transition* (vv. 36-40) to a *rejection story* (vv. 41-71), the dialogical framework shows the development from *sign-carrying dialogues* (vv. 1-21) to *question-and-answer dialogues* (vv. 22-71).¹⁶⁷⁷

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
Slot # 1 (6:1-15)	Content: Jesus’ role as a prophet who comes into this world // Form: <i>Question of Test-Answer of Impossibility-Action of Possibility, Dialogue-Action-Dialogue, Suspense to Surprise, Mountain Dialogue</i> // Function: Persuades the reader to be a dialoguing and practicing follower of Jesus	The <i>dialogue-action-dialogue</i> form of the slot reveals Jesus’ role as the prophet who is to come. It further persuades the reader to be a dialoguing and an action-oriented follower
Slot # 2 (6:16-21)	Content: Revelation of Jesus’ identity as the “I AM” // Form: <i>Abbreviated and implicit, from separation to reunion, elusiveness to revelation, non-recognition to recognition, Action-Dialogue-Action-Dialogue, Sea Dialogue</i> // Function: It functions both as a narrative embodiment of John’s Christology and as a persuasive unit for the reader to reckon with	The <i>action-dialogue-action-dialogue</i> format of the slot reveals Jesus’ identity as the “I AM”. It persuades the reader to accept the self-revelatory aspects and the Christology of the episode
Slot # 3 (6:22-71)	The synagogue setting of the third slot makes it a ‘synagogue dialogue’ <u>Sub-Slot One (vv. 22-59)</u> Content: The antithetical worldviews of Jesus and the Jews, i.e., between the ‘world from above’ and the ‘world from below’ // Form: <i>Question-and-Answer, separation to reunion, vertical and horizontal, dramatic and</i>	The <i>question-and-answer</i> format is the overarching tenet of the third slot. <u>Sub-Slot One (vv. 22-59)</u> The <i>question-and-answer</i> format of the dialogue reveals the antithetical worldviews of the interlocutors. The dialogue persuades the reader to become a partaker of the Bread of Life

¹⁶⁷⁵ The text cannot provide pleasure and joy without having ‘dialogical reciprocity’. Felch (2005: 174; cf. 1989) says that, “Dialogical reciprocity requires that the reader actively engage in the world of the Bible”. (cf. Wellek, 1955: 3-235; Lausberg, 1998: 2-146; Vanhoozer, 1998: 28; Gabel and Wheeler, 1986: 3-22; 1986: 3-16; Keener, 2003: 663-99; Neyrey, 2007: 116-34; Fiorenza, 2001: 44; Kennedy, 1984: 3-38; Thiese, 1-10; Mitchell, 2006: 615-33; Nichols, 1971: 130-41).

¹⁶⁷⁶ Stibbe (1993: 88) states that, “The secret sense deriving from (these) echo effects is as follows: in John stands among the Jews one who is far greater than Moses, Jesus of Nazareth. This Jesus has bread to offer more precious than the manna which God gave to Moses, for it is the life-giving bread of his own body”. (1983: 91) says that, “The walking on the water may not involve the stilling of the storm at all. Its significance is hardly developed, lies in its reenactment of the exodus and its character as an epiphany”.

¹⁶⁷⁷ Painter’s evaluation of the entire gospel is based on the narratorial framework as a whole. But our evaluation is basically dialogue-centric. In our evaluation, we consider the utterance units as the primary component of the literary work and the narratorials as later additions.

	<p><i>conflictive, metaphorical and homiletical</i> // Function: It persuades the reader to be connected to the Bread of Life</p> <p><u><i>Sub-Slot Two (vv. 60-66)</i></u> Content: Jesus' re-affirmation of his words over against the unbelieving nature of the disciples // Form: <i>Antithetical, question and counter-question, narrative-utterance-narrative-utterance, dualistic</i> // Function: It functions as a creative, dramatic, and persuasive literary piece</p> <p><u><i>Sub-Slot Three (vv. 67-71)</i></u> Content: The belief-affirmation of the Twelve; Jesus' revelation of the 'devil' from the Twelve // Form: <i>question-and-answer, challenge-and-riposte, reunion to separation</i> // Function: It generates anticipation in the mind of the reader and invites her/him toward believing/following Jesus</p>	<p><u><i>Sub-Slot Two (vv. 60-66)</i></u> The <i>question and counter-question</i> and the <i>antithetical</i> format of the slot reveals Jesus' reaffirmation of the words over against the unbelieving nature of his interlocutors. It persuades the reader to be at the believing side over against the unbelieving side of his interlocutors</p> <p><u><i>Sub-Slot Three (vv. 67-71)</i></u> The <i>question-and-answer/challenge-and-riposte/question and counter-question</i> format of the slot reveals the 'devil' out. It persuades the reader to be believing in/following Jesus</p>
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Table 61: The summary of the dialogue of the eighth episode

Episode Nine

A Religious-Theological Dialogue¹⁶⁷⁸

(7:1-52; 8:12-59)

The section 7:1-8:59 (excluding 7:53-8:11) is one of the largest discourse units in John's Gospel. The first slot, i.e., 7:1-9, plays a significant role as that connects the Judean 'dialogue turned monologue' section (5:1-47), the Galilean signs (6:1-21) and the bread discourse (6:22-71) with the array of Temple discourses (7:10-10:21; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 88-9; Keener, 2003: 703-74).¹⁶⁷⁹ The dialogues of the present episode work within a well-described narratorial framework.

9.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

The dialogue section in 7:1-52/8:12-59 develops in the form of a seven slots episode (see 7:1-9, 10-13, 14-36, 37-44, 45-52; 8:12-20, 21-59).¹⁶⁸⁰ As in the case of the previous chapters, the usage of the expression *μετὰ ταῦτα* (7:1; cf. 5:1; 6:1) can be considered as a connecting link with the previous episode (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 6).¹⁶⁸¹ Slot one (7:1-9) is placed both as a conclusion to the previous events centered in the Galilean context and as an introduction to the anticipated events

¹⁶⁷⁸ Dodd (1960: 345) considers it as a series of "controversial dialogues". But Bennema (2009: 41) considers it as a "religio-theological conflict". A careful examination of the episode reveals both these aspects and hence can be considered as a controversy on religio-theological aspects.

¹⁶⁷⁹ Talbert (1992: 143) has a different view about the narrative structure as follows: "John 7-9 is a large thought unit composed of discourse material in dialogue form (chaps. 7-8) linked with a sign (chap. 9), just as chaps. 5 and 6 are. Unlike chaps. 5 and 6, but like chaps. 10-11, John 7-9 gives the discourse material first and the sign last".

¹⁶⁸⁰ Dodd (1960: 345-6) outlines the episode in a different way as follows: *first*, Introductory (7:1-10); *second*, Scene at the Feast of Tabernacles in the absence of Jesus (7:11-13); *third*, First dialogue (7:14-24); *fourth*, Second dialogue (7:25-36); *fifth*, Third dialogue (7:37-44); *sixth*, Fourth dialogue (7:45-52); *seventh*, Fifth dialogue (8:12-20); *eighth*, Sixth dialogue (8:21-30); and *ninth*, Seventh and closing dialogue (8:31-59). In Dodd's structuring, 7:1-13 is considered just as an introductory section. But the dialogue of 7:1-13 has to be considered as the preparatory grounds for the subsequent dialogues (7:14-8:59). In Dodd's analysis, the sections 7:14-36 and 8:21-59 are divided into two separate dialogues (vv. 14-24 and vv. 25-36 // vv. 21-30 and vv. 31-59). While the dialogue in 7:14-36 is developing within a setting of 'the middle of the festival' (7:14), the dialogue in 8:21-59 is developing without having a change of setting. This prompts us to consider 7:14-36 and 8:21-59 as slots without breaks in between. Culpepper (1983: 72) sees one day duration for the first slot (7:1-8) and one week duration for 7:14-8:59. Stibbe (1993: 89) is of the view that, "In chaps. 7-10, a period of well under a year is described. Jesus celebrates the feast of Tabernacles in late September or early October (7:1-8:59), then presumably stays in or around Jerusalem for the Feast of Dedication in late December (10: 22-39). Thus the process time in John's story is beginning to slow down".

¹⁶⁸¹ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 256; cf. Morris, 1995: 348-9) opines that, "About the transitional phrase ("after this") there is a difference of opinion. Some scholars infer a change of locale from v. 1a, namely from Judea (Jerusalem) to Galilee; in that case 7:1 does not link up with chap. 6, because there Jesus is already in Galilee". Moloney (1998: 232) is of the opinion that, "The appearance of 'after this' (*μετὰ ταῦτα*) in 7:1 indicates the beginning of a new series of events (cf. 5:1; 6:1). This is reinforced by the announcement in v. 2 of another feast of 'the Jews', the feast of Tabernacles".

in the Jewish provinces.¹⁶⁸² At the outset of the episode, the narrator explain in some detail the reason for Jesus' *going about* (περιπατεῖ) in Galilee, his unwillingness to *go about* (περιπατεῖ) in Judea, the reason for his stay back in Galilee, and the religious or cultic setting of the story (vv. 2; cf. Robertson, 1932: 117; Resseguie, 2005: 113-4).¹⁶⁸³ The reason for Jesus' staying in Galilee is indicated by the help of a narratorial description in v. 1b, i.e., "he (Jesus) did not wish to go about in Judea because the Jews were looking for an opportunity to kill him" (οὐ γὰρ ἤθελεν Ἰουδαίᾳ περιπατεῖν, ὅτι ἐζήτουν αὐτὸν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἀποκτεῖναι, cf. Painter, 1993: 287-9). The first nine verses of chapter seven have to be treated as an independent unit (because of its setting in Galilee) that is different from the setting of the rest of the episode (i.e., in Judea; 7:10-52; 8:1-18). The narrator provides clues about the celebration mood of the Jewish community and about the preparation for the forthcoming Festival of Tabernacles (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 135; Wise, 2004: 240).¹⁶⁸⁵ Barrett (1978: 310; cf. Smith, 1999: 166-8; Maniparampil, 2004: 264-7) describes the Festival of Tabernacles as follows: "Tabernacles lasted seven days, from 15th to 21st (September-October); of these the first day was sabbatical".¹⁶⁸⁶ This *religious/cultic* scene sets the stage for Jesus to be in Jerusalem rather than his remaining in Galilee (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 113-4; Neyrey, 1967: 100-3).

Though there is no indication about the exact location of the dialogue, it is left to the reader to think about Jesus' family atmosphere as the interlocutors are his brothers and the geographical location is Galilee, the homeland of the protagonist (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87, 113-4).¹⁶⁸⁷

¹⁶⁸² Bultmann (1971: 287) opines that, "7:1-13 is the introduction to the whole complex; it prepares the way for the appearance in Jerusalem at the feast of Tabernacles, which is surprising both in its timing and manner".

¹⁶⁸³ Bultmann (1971: 288) states that, "Verse 1 links up the new section with the preceding one, and at the same time gives a general description of the situation . . . Verse 2 gives a more precise account of the chronological setting presupposed in the following narrative". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 256; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138; Morris, 1993: 348-9; Witherington, 1995: 164; Maniparampil, 2004: 266-7; Painter, 1993: 287.

¹⁶⁸⁴ Beasley-Murray (1987: 104) opines that, "Unlike previous episodes narrated we do not have sign(s) plus teaching but we do have a narrative with a core of teaching significantly related to its setting. The Feast of Tabernacles is the place in Jerusalem". The continuing attempts to kill Jesus in chaps. 7 and 8: 7:1(11), 19-20, 25, 44; 8:37, 44; 9:7, 13; 10:31, 39; 11:8, 19; 12:10, 13; 13:2, 7, 33; 14:1, 12; 15:20, 26; 16:21, 28; 18:14, 24; 19:15, 31; 20:19, 26; 21:20, 26; 22:1, 6, 22; 23:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 24:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 25:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 26:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 27:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 28:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 29:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 30:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 31:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 32:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 33:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 34:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 35:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 36:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 37:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 38:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 39:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 40:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 41:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 42:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 43:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 44:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 45:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 46:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 47:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 48:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 49:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 50:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 51:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 52:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 53:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 54:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 55:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 56:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 57:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 58:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 59:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 60:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 61:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 62:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 63:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 64:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 65:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 66:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 67:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 68:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 69:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 70:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 71:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 72:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 73:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 74:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 75:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 76:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 77:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 78:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 79:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 80:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 81:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 82:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 83:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 84:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 85:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 86:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 87:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 88:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 89:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 90:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 91:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 92:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 93:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 94:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 95:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 96:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 97:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 98:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 99:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48; 100:1, 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48.

¹⁶⁸⁵ Wise (1992: 240) says that, "The term for the Feast of Tabernacles, *skēnopēgia*, occurs only twice in John 5:1 (textual variant) and 7:2. The narrative units that together comprise John 7 are dramatically oriented around the feast, so that in verses 1-9 the feast is near, in verses 10-13 Jesus goes up to the festival, in verses 14-36 Jesus teaches during the festival week, and verses 37-52 narrate what occurred on the last day of the festival". (1995: 347-8) comments that, "The Feast of Tabernacle was the feast of thanksgiving primarily for the blessing of God in harvest, but there was also special reference to the blessings the people received during the wanderings, the time when God manifested himself in the tabernacle". Cf. Witherington, 1995: 164, 171; Morris, 1993: 287-91; Carson, 1991: 304-6; Maniparampil, 2004: 264; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138.

¹⁶⁸⁶ The feast of Tabernacles or Booths (see, Lev 23: 36-38, 39-43; Deut 16: 13-15; cf. Exo 23: 16). Maniparampil (2004: 264) says that, "The Feast of the Booths lasted for a week (Deut 16:13) or even eight days (Lev 23:34-36). The reference in 7:14, 'the middle of the feast', and in 7:37, 'on the last day of the feast' are some indications of the duration of the feast". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 257; Maniparampil, 2004: 264-67; Köstenberger, 2004: 229. Moloney (1998: 233) states that, "Tabernacles was the most popular of the three pilgrimage feasts and was known as 'the feast of YHWH' (Lev 23:19) or simply 'the feast' (1 Kings 8:2, 65; 2 Chron 7:8; Neh 8:14; Isa 30:29; Eze 45:23)". Brown (1979: 100) states that, "The autumnal harvest feast received the name of *Sukkot* ('huts', but also translated 'booths' or 'tabernacles') because people celebrated it outside in the vineyards where they made huts of tree branches".

¹⁶⁸⁷ The surrounding seems to be Jesus' own home and the interlocutors are Jesus and his brothers.

slot as a whole forms a *Galilee to Galilee inclusion* between v. 1 and v. 9. The second slot (7:10-13) frames its setting as the brothers depart for the festival to Jerusalem (ἀνέβησαν οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν, v. 10a) and Jesus' secret departure for the festival at a later time (καὶ αὐτὸς ἀνέβη οὐ φανερώς ἀλλὰ [ὥς] ἐν κρυπτῷ, v. 10b).¹⁶⁸⁸ The narrator reports that the Jews were waiting for Jesus' coming (v. 11a) and there was considerable complaining (γογγυσμός) about him among the crowds (v. 12a; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 294-5).¹⁶⁸⁹ Witherington (1995: 171) opines that, ". . . in vv. 11-13 there is a clear distinction made between the Jews who are seeking Jesus with malicious intent and the crowds who are divided about Jesus". The dialogue of the second slot develops from the question of the Jews in v. 11 to the complaining of the crowd in v. 12b (cf. Talbert, 1992: 143-4).¹⁶⁹⁰ The third slot (7:14-36) has its setting in the temple "about the middle of the festival" (τῆς ἑορτῆς μεσοῦσης, v. 14). At the beginning of the slot, the narrator tells the reader that Jesus "began to teach" (ἔδίδασκεν) in the temple (cf. v. 14b; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 140-6).¹⁶⁹¹ While the religious/cultic setting continues all through the episode, the geographical setting of the first two slots (7:1-13) is replaced by the architectural setting of 7:14-8:59 (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 100-5; Crossan, 1967: 100-3).

The fourth slot (7:37-44) unfolds the enigmatic proclamation of Jesus (vv. 37b-38) followed by a community dialogue (vv. 40b-42), and that takes place "on the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there" (τῇ ἑσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ μεγάλῃ τῆς ἑορτῆς, v. 37).¹⁶⁹² Ridderbos (1987/1997: 272) opines that, "The 'last day of the feast, the great day' is probably the seventh day, on which the celebration came to a climax".¹⁶⁹³ In vv. 40-44, the narrator reports about the crowd's dialogue among themselves concerning Jesus and a subsequent division (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 148-9). The slot as a whole is wrapped up by a narratorial note at the end that "some

¹⁶⁸⁸ Dodd (1963: 323; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 59-62) states that, ". . . both passages are in some way associated with the move from Galilee to Jerusalem (or Judea)".

¹⁶⁸⁹ Painter (1993: 289) opines that, ". . . the crowd is viewed as distinct from the Jews in that fear of the Jews inhibited open debate about Jesus". Bennema (2009: 41) is of the view that, "John 7-10 is dominated by 'the Jews' (18 occurrences) and the Pharisees (11 occurrences). In certain passages the Pharisees and 'the Jews' are synonymous: for example, though Jesus' audience is referred to as the Pharisees in 8:12-20 and 'the Jews' in 8:22-59, it is probably the same audience; in 9:13-41 the Pharisees are identical or belong to 'the Jews'". Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 231-2; Morris, 1995: 356-7; Moloney, 1998: 240.

¹⁶⁹⁰ Haenchen (1984: 2: 8) says that, "Acts 14:4 and especially Acts 23:9 onward exhibit similar examples of the presentation of two different groups in Judaism, although the question 'Where is he?' does not appear". Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 142-5; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 259-60; Carson, 1991: 309-10.

¹⁶⁹¹ Neyrey (2007: 139-67; cf. Keener, 2003: 703-74) sees nine scenes (7:10-13; 14, 24; 25-30; 32-36; 37-39; 40-44; 45-52; 8:12-20; 21-30), two tests (8:31-37; 38-40) and cycles (8:44-49; 51-55; 56-58) within the episode. Neyrey considers, just as Dodd (1960: 345), the section 7:1-10 as an introductory section.

¹⁶⁹² Haenchen (1984: 2: 17) reports that, "In support of the seventh day it is alleged there is nothing special about the eighth day, although it has the character of a Sabbath (as does the first day), while on the seventh day, the procession circled the altar not one but seven times and the willow branches were beaten on the ground". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 272-3; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 152; Carson, 1991: 321.

¹⁶⁹³ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 256) states that, "Elsewhere there is also mention of an eighth day, but that was apparently more a closing day, certainly not 'the great day'". But Moloney (1998: 252) says that, "The eighth day of the feast, the last day, was similar to a Sabbath (cf. Lev 22:33-43). It was a day of great rejoicing, and the singing of the *Hallel* continued". See Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 152; Köstenberger, 2004: 239-40; Brown, 1966: 320-8.

of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him” (τινὲς ἤθελον ἐξ αὐτῶν πιᾶσαι ἀλλ’ οὐδεὶς ἐπέβαλεν ἐπ’ αὐτὸν τὰς χεῖρας, v.44). In the fifth slot (7:45-52), the main interlocutors are the chief priests and Pharisees, and the temple police and Nicodemus (cf. Talbert, 1999: 2). The narrator begins with the statement that “the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees” (Ἦλθον οὖν οἱ ὑπηρέται πρὸς τοὺς ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ Φαρισαίους, v. 45a), and then begins the dialogue.¹⁶⁹⁴ The sixth slot (8:12-20) begins abruptly as a dialogue with the narrator reporting that “again Jesus spoke to them” (πάλιν αὐτοῖς ἐλάλησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς, v. 12).¹⁶⁹⁵ The *archaeological* context of the dialogue in vv. 12-20 is the treasury (ἐν τῷ γαζοφυλακίῳ τῷ ἱερῷ, v. 20)¹⁶⁹⁶ and the temple at Jerusalem (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 27; Resseguie, 2005: 113).¹⁶⁹⁷ Just as the sixth slot, the seventh slot (8:21-59) begins without any narratorial reference and can be considered as a dialogue between Jesus and the crowds/Jews/chief priests and Pharisees/some of the people of Jerusalem/temple police (cf. Robertson, 1932: 141-59; 2007: 154-67).¹⁶⁹⁸ By the end of the slot, the narrator says that the Jews “picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple” (ἤρσαν λίθους ἵνα βάλωσιν ἐπ’ αὐτόν, v. 59; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 128).¹⁶⁹⁹

From the above analysis the reader learns that the setting of the larger episode is *religious*; it is set against a festival season and is at the temple of Jerusalem (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 113). It is also *judicial/political* as the Sanhedrin and the temple police are involved in the conflict. Köstenberger (2004: 231) comments that, “After setting the stage (i.e., in 7:1-9), the evangelist now commences his narration (i.e., from 7:10-13) of the dramatically escalating conflict surrounding Jesus”. The conflict that is filled with dramatic elements reaches its apogee in 8:12-20 (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 128; Keener, 2003: 768-74). This structural setting of the extended episode helps the reader to move forward with mixed feelings. In order to understand the structural setting of the episode a reader has to decide about the *location(s)* and *duration(s)* of the festival. Moloney (2003: 233) analyses the structural pattern of the temple discourse sections in 7:1-10:21 (in which the temple discourse section 7:1-52/8:12-59 comes) as follows:

¹⁶⁹⁴ The temple police (‘servants’, Bultmann, 1971: 309) sent out in v. 32 return without success to the Sanhedrin to justify themselves (v. 46). Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 159; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 278-9.

¹⁶⁹⁵ Robertson (1932: 141) says about the expression “Again therefore . . .” (πάλιν οὖν) in the following dialogue that it fits in better with 7:52 than with 8:11.

¹⁶⁹⁶ Von Wahlde (2010: 381) states that, “The Temple Treasury is also mentioned in Mark 12:41. It was located in the Court of the Women (Josephus, *Jewish War*, 5.5.2 §200) and at least at the time of the Roman siege it was a repository for the wealth of many of the rich of the city as well as for the Temple treasures themselves” (*Jewish War*, 5.5.2 §282).

¹⁶⁹⁷ As the dialogue takes place during the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles (or later), a *religious/cultic* setting can be attributed here.

¹⁶⁹⁸ Cf. Witherington, 1995: 171; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 261-2; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 145.

¹⁶⁹⁹ Haenchen (1984: 2: 30) sees the closing sentence, ‘and went out of the temple’, as necessary as an introduction to the following story. Cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 386, 419-22; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 196-7, 224.

First, the expression μετὰ ταῦτα appears in 7:1, but never again in 7:1-10:21; *second*, the Jews' feast of Tabernacle was at hand (7:2); *third*, the brothers and Jesus go up to Jerusalem for the feast (7:10); *fourth*, encounters take place "about the middle of the feast" (7:14); *fifth*, further encounters take place "on the last day of the feast" (7:37); *sixth*, although there is a continuation of time, a change of place occurs in 8:59. As "the Jews" took up stones, Jesus hid himself and then went out ἐξῆλθεν of the Temple; *seventh*, Jesus' exit from the Temple leads directly into 9:1. "Passing by" παράγων, he sees the man born blind (9:1). The events of chaps. 8 and 9 follow one another, but the location has changed; and *eighth*, the temporal unity across 7:1-10:21 is not broken until the narrator announces the feast of the Dedication in 10:22.

The expressions like ἦν ἐγγὺς ἡ ἑορτὴ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἡ σκηνοπηγία ('the Jewish festival of Tabernacles was near', 7:2), οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἐζήτουν αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ ἑορτῇ ('the Jews were looking for him at the festival', 7:11a), "Ἦδη τῆς ἑορτῆς μεσοῦσης ('about the middle of the festival', 7:14a), 'Ἐν τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ ('on the last day', 7:37)/τῇ μεγάλῃ τῆς ἑορτῆς ('the great day of the festival', 7:37) and ἐν τῷ γαζοφυλακίῳ ('in the treasury', 8:20; cf. Keener, 2003: 742) provide certain clues about the time process of the extended narrative (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 283-4; Culpepper, 1983: 53-75).¹⁷⁰⁰ The expression εἰστήκει ὁ Ἰησοῦς ('Jesus had stood', 7:37) may generate a certain level of perplexity in the activity of reading the text (i.e., "where Jesus stood?"). This perplexity can be cleared up on the basis of the previous reference that Jesus is in the temple (v. 28). Keener (2003: 722) comments on Jesus' utterance in 7:37b-38 as follows: "the temple is the site of such an announcement is no coincidence, considering the role of the temple played in eschatological water expectation. That Jesus 'cried out' may imply the special significance of his words".¹⁷⁰¹ In short, the setting of the extended narrative in 7:1-52 and 8:12-59 is *religious/ceremonial* as it takes place during the festival season and is *architectural* as the temple of Jerusalem sets the location (cf. Keener, 2003: 768-74; Resseguie, 2005: 100-5, 113-4; see Table 62).

Slots	Episode 9: John 7:1-52; 8:12-59 (See the notes on each slots)
Slot # 1 ¹⁷⁰²	<p><i>Brothers:</i> Μετάβηθι ἐντεῦθεν καὶ ὑπάγε εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν, ἵνα καὶ οἱ μαθηταὶ σου θεωρήσουσιν σου τὰ ἔργα ἃ ποιεῖς· οὐδεὶς γάρ τι ἐν κρυπτῷ ποιεῖ καὶ ζητεῖ αὐτὸς ἐν παρρησίᾳ εἶναι. εἰ ταῦτα ποιεῖς, φανέρωσον σεαυτὸν τῷ κόσμῳ</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ὁ καιρὸς ὁ ἐμὸς οὐπω πάρεστιν, ὁ δὲ καιρὸς ὁ ὑμέτερος πάντοτε ἐστίν· ἐτοιμος. οὐ δύναται ὁ κόσμος μισεῖν ὑμᾶς, ἐμὲ δὲ μισεῖ, ὅτι ἐγὼ μαρτυρῶ περὶ αὐτοῦ ὅτι τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ πονηρὰ ἐστίν. ὑμεῖς ἀνάβητε εἰς τὴν ἑορτὴν· ἐγὼ οὐκ ἀναβαίνω εἰς τὴν ἑορτὴν ταύτην, ὅτι ὁ ἐμὸς καιρὸς οὐπω πεπλήρωται</p>
Slot # 2 ¹⁷⁰³	<p><i>Jews:</i> Ποῦ ἐστὶν ἐκεῖνος;</p> <p><i>Some Jews:</i> Ἀγαθὸς ἐστίν</p> <p><i>Some others:</i> Οὐ, ἀλλὰ πλανᾷ τὸν ὄχλον</p>

¹⁷⁰⁰ Cf. *m. Sukk.* 4:8; Josephus, *Ant.* 3:245, 247. The "last day, the greatest day of the festival", is an ambiguous designation. Whereas the festival proper is spoken of as seven days in Deut 16:13, 15; Eze 45:25; *Jub.* 16:20-31; an eighth day, a Sabbath, is reckoned in Lev. 23: 34-36 (cf. Num 29:12-39; 2 Mac 10:6).

¹⁷⁰¹ Cf. 7:37; also in 1:15; 7:28; 12:44.

¹⁷⁰² Slot # 1 begins in the form of a narrative (cf. vv. 1-2) and then turns to be a dialogue between Jesus and his brothers. There are two utterances, one of his brothers (vv. 3-4) and another one is of Jesus (vv. 6-8).

¹⁷⁰³ Slot # 2 is mostly made up of narratives; but, the utterance units (cf. vv. 11b, 12b) are understood as part of a dialogue.

Slot # 3 ¹⁷⁰⁴	<p><i>Jews</i>: Πῶς οὗτος γράμματα οἶδεν μὴ μεμαθηκώς;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἡ ἐμὴ διδασχὴ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐμὴ ἀλλὰ τοῦ πέμψαντός με· ἂν τις θέλῃ τὸ θέλημα ποιεῖν, γνώσεται περὶ τῆς διδασχῆς πότερον ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐστὶν ἢ ἐγὼ ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ· ἀφ' ἐαυτοῦ λαλῶν τὴν δόξαν τὴν ἰδίαν ζητεῖ· ὁ δὲ ζητῶν τὴν δόξαν τοῦ πέμψαντος οὗτος ἀληθὴς ἐστὶν καὶ ἀδικία ἐν αὐτῷ οὐκ ἔστιν. οὐ Μωϋσῆς δέδωκεν ὑμῖν τὸν νόμον καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐξ ὑμῶν ποιεῖ τὸν νόμον. τί με ζητεῖτε ἀποκτείνει;</p> <p><i>Crowd</i>: Δαιμόνιον ἔχει· τίς σε ζητεῖ ἀποκτείνει;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἐν ἔργον ἐποίησα καὶ πάντες θαυμάζετε. διὰ τοῦτο Μωϋσῆς δέδωκεν ὑμῖν περιτομὴν - οὐχ ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ Μωϋσέως ἐστὶν ἀλλ' ἐκ τῶν πατέρων - καὶ ἐν σαββάτῳ περιτέμνετε ἄνθρωπον. εἰ περιτομὴν λαμβάνει ἄνθρωπος ἐν σαββάτῳ ἵνα μὴ λυθῇ ὁ Μωϋσέως, ἐμοὶ χολᾶτε ὅτι ὄλον ἄνθρωπον ὑγιῇ ἐποίησα ἐν σαββάτῳ; μὴ κρίνετε καὶ ὄψιν, ἀλλὰ τὴν δικαίαν κρίσιν κρίνετε.</p> <p><i>People from Jerusalem</i>: Οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν ὃν ζητοῦσιν ἀποκτείνει; καὶ ἴδε παρρησίᾳ καὶ οὐδὲν αὐτῷ λέγουσιν. μήποτε ἀληθῶς ἔγνωσαν οἱ ἄρχοντες ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστὸς ἀλλὰ τοῦτον οἶδαμεν πόθεν ἐστίν· ὁ δὲ Χριστὸς ὅταν ἔρχεται οὐδεὶς γινώσκει πόθεν ἐστίν.</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Καὶ οἶδατε καὶ οἶδατε πόθεν εἰμὶ· καὶ ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ οὐκ ἐλήλυθα, ἀλλ' ἔστιν ἀληθινὸς ὁ πέμψας με, ὃν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἶδατε· ἐγὼ οἶδα αὐτόν, ὅτι παρ' αὐτοῦ εἰμι καὶ με ἀπέστειλεν.</p> <p><i>Crowd</i>: Ὁ Χριστὸς ὅταν ἔλθῃ μὴ πλείονα σημεῖα ποιήσει ὢν οὗτος ἐποίησεν;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἔτι χρόνον μικρὸν μεθ' ὑμῶν εἰμι καὶ ὑπάγω πρὸς τὸν πέμψαντά με. ζητῇ καὶ οὐχ εὐρήσατέ [με], καὶ ὅπου εἰμι ἐγὼ ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν.</p> <p><i>Jews</i> (to one another): Ποῦ οὗτος μέλλει πορεύεσθαι ὅτι ἡμεῖς οὐχ εὐρήσομεν αὐτόν; τὴν διασπορὰν τῶν Ἑλλήνων μέλλει πορεύεσθαι καὶ διδάσκειν τοὺς Ἑλληνας; τίς λόγος οὗτος ὃν εἶπεν, Ζητήσατέ με καὶ οὐχ εὐρήσατέ [με], καὶ ὅπου εἰμι ἐγὼ ὑμεῖς δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν;</p>
Slot # 4 ¹⁷⁰⁵	<p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἐάν τις διψᾷ ἐρχέσθω πρὸς με καὶ πινέτω. ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμέ, καθὼς εἶπε γράφῃ, ποταμοὶ ἐκ τῆς κοιλίας αὐτοῦ ρεύσουσιν ὕδατος ζῶντος.</p> <p><i>Some in the crowd</i>: Οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ προφήτης;</p> <p><i>Others in the crowd</i>: Οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστὸς;</p> <p><i>Some others</i>: Μὴ γὰρ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας ὁ Χριστὸς ἔρχεται; οὐχ ἡ γράφῃ εἶπεν ὅτι σπέρματος Δαυὶδ καὶ ἀπὸ Βηθλέεμ τῆς κώμης ὅπου ἦν Δαυὶδ ἔρχεται ὁ Χριστὸς;</p>
Slot # 5 ¹⁷⁰⁶	<p><i>Chief Priests and Pharisees</i>: Διὰ τί οὐκ ἠγάγετε αὐτόν;</p> <p><i>Temple Police</i>: Οὐδέποτε ἐλάλησεν οὕτως ἄνθρωπος.</p> <p><i>Pharisees</i>: Μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς πεπλάνησθε; μὴ τις ἐκ τῶν ἀρχόντων ἐπίστευσεν εἰς αὐτὸν τῶν Φαρισαίων; ἀλλὰ ὁ ὄχλος οὗτος ὁ μὴ γινώσκων τὸν νόμον ἐπάρατοί εἰσιν.</p> <p><i>Nicodemus</i>: Μὴ ὁ νόμος ἡμῶν κρίνει τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἂν μὴ ἀκούσῃ πρῶτον παρ' αὐτοῦ καὶ γινῇ τί ποιεῖ;</p> <p><i>Chief Priests and Pharisees</i>: Μὴ καὶ σὺ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας εἶ; ἐραύνησον καὶ ἴδε ὅτι τῆς Γαλιλαίας προφήτης οὐκ ἐγείρεται.</p>
Slot # 6 ¹⁷⁰⁷	<p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἐγὼ εἰμι τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου· ὁ ἀκολουθῶν ἐμοὶ οὐ μὴ περιπατήσῃ ἐν τῇ ὥρᾳ τοῦ σκοτοῦ· ἀλλ' ἔξει τὸ φῶς τῆς ζωῆς.</p> <p><i>Pharisees</i>: Σὺ περὶ σεαυτοῦ μαρτυρεῖς· ἡ μαρτυρία σου οὐκ ἔστιν ἀληθής.</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Καὶ ἐγὼ μαρτυρῶ περὶ ἐμαυτοῦ, ἀληθὴς ἐστὶν ἡ μαρτυρία μου, ὅτι οἶδα πᾶν καὶ ἦλθον καὶ τοῦ ὑπάγω· ὑμεῖς δὲ οὐκ οἶδατε πόθεν ἔρχομαι ἢ ποῦ ὑπάγω. ὑμεῖς καὶ σάρκα κρίνετε, ἐγὼ οὐ κρίνω οὐδένα. καὶ ἂν κρίνω δὲ ἐγὼ, ἡ κρίσις ἡ ἐμὴ ἀληθὴς ἐστὶν, ὅτι μόνος οὐκ εἰμὶ, ἀλλ' ἐγὼ καὶ ὁ πέμψας με πατήρ. καὶ ἐν τῷ νόμῳ δὲ τὸ ἐμὲτέρῳ γέγραπται ὅτι δύο ἀνθρώπων ἡ μαρτυρία ἀληθὴς ἐστὶν. ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ μαρτυρῶν περὶ ἐμαυτοῦ καὶ μαρτυρεῖ περὶ ἐμοῦ ὁ πέμψας με πατήρ.</p>

¹⁷⁰⁴ Slot # 3 is a dialogue driven pericope. The narratives come into play in vv. 14-15a, 16a, 20a, 21a, 25 31a, 32-33a and 35a.

¹⁷⁰⁵ Slot # 4 has two parts: *first*, a monologue within a narrative section (vv. 37-39); and *second*, a community response within a narrative section (vv. 40-44).

¹⁷⁰⁶ Slot # 5 begins in the form of a narratorial note (v. 45a), but develops and finishes as a dialogue (v. 45b-46a).

¹⁷⁰⁷ Slot # 6 begins without an extensive narratorial note (v. 12); but, provides a narratorial note by the end (v. 13).

	<p><i>Pharisees:</i> Ποῦ ἐστὶν ὁ πατήρ σου;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Οὐτε ἐμὲ οἶδατε οὔτε τὸν πατέρα μου· εἰ ἐμὲ ᾔδειτε, καὶ τὸν πατέρα μου ἂν ᾔδειτε.</p>
Slot # 7 ¹⁷⁰⁸	<p><u>Sub-Slot One</u></p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ἐγὼ ὑπάγω καὶ ζητήσετέ με, καὶ ἐν τῇ ἁμαρτίᾳ ὑμῶν ἀποθανεῖσθε· ὅπου ἐγὼ ὑπάγω ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν.</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Μήτι ἀποκτενεῖ ἑαυτόν, ὅτι λέγει, Ὅπου ἐγὼ ὑπάγω ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ὑμεῖς ἐκ τῶν κάτω ἐστέ, ἐγὼ ἐκ τῶν ἄνω εἰμί· ὑμεῖς ἐκ τούτου τοῦ κόσμου ἐστέ, ἐγὼ οὐκ εἰμί ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου τούτου. εἶπον οὖν ἡμῖν ὅτι ἀποθανεῖσθε ἐν ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις ὑμῶν· ἔαν γὰρ μὴ πιστεύσητε ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι, ἀποθανεῖσθε ἐν ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις ὑμῶν.</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Σὺ τίς εἶ;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Τὴν ἀρχὴν ὃ τι καὶ λαλῶ ὑμῖν; πολλὰ ἔχω περὶ ὑμῶν λαλεῖν καὶ κρίνειν, ἀλλ' ὁ πέμψας με ἀληθὴς ἐστίν, καὶ γὰρ ἃ ἤκουσα παρ' αὐτοῦ ταῦτα λαλῶ εἰς τὸν κόσμον.</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ὅταν ὑψώσῃτε τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου, τότε γνώσεσθε ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι, καὶ ἀπ' ἑμαυτοῦ ποιῶ οὐδέν, ἀλλὰ καθὼς ἐδίδαξέν με ὁ πατήρ ταῦτα λαλῶ. καὶ ὁ πέμψας με μετ' ἐμοῦ ἐστίν· οὐκ ἀφήκεν με μόνον, ὅτι ἐγὼ τὰ ἀρεστὰ αὐτῷ ποιῶ πάντοτε.</p> <p><u>Sub-Slot Two</u></p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ἐὰν ὑμεῖς μείνητε ἐν τῷ λόγῳ τῷ ἐμῷ, ἀληθῶς μαθηταὶ μου ἐστέ καὶ γνώσεσθε τὴν ἀλήθειαν, καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια ἐλευθερώσει ὑμᾶς.</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Σπέρμα Ἀβραάμ ἐσμεν καὶ οὐδενὶ δεδουλεύκαμεν πώποτε· πῶς σὺ λέγεις ὅτι Ἐλεύθεροι γενήσεσθε;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι πᾶς ὁ ποιῶν τὴν ἁμαρτίαν δοῦλός ἐστιν τῆς ἁμαρτίας. ὁ δὲ δοῦλος οὐ μένει ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, ὁ υἱὸς μένει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. ἔαν οὖν ὁ υἱὸς ὑμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃ, ὅντως ἐλεύθεροι ἔσεσθε. οἶδα ὅτι σπέρμα Ἀβραάμ ἐστε· ἀλλὰ ζητεῖτέ με ἀποκτεῖναι, ὅτι ὁ λόγος ὁ ἐμὸς οὐ χωρεῖ ἐν ὑμῖν. ἃ ἐγὼ ἑώρακα παρὰ τῷ πατρὶ λαλῶ· καὶ ὑμεῖς οὖν ἃ ἠκούσατε παρὰ τοῦ πατρὸς ποιεῖτε.</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Ὁ πατήρ ἡμῶν Ἀβραάμ ἐστίν.</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Εἰ τέκνα τοῦ Ἀβραάμ ἐστε, τὰ ἔργα τοῦ Ἀβραάμ ἐποιεῖτε· νῦν δὲ ζητεῖτέ με ἀποκτεῖναι ἄνθρωπον ὃς τὴν ἀλήθειαν ὑμῖν λελάληκα ἣν ἤκουσα παρὰ τοῦ θεοῦ· τοῦτο Ἀβραάμ οὐκ ἐποίησεν. ὑμεῖς ποιεῖτε τὰ ἔργα τοῦ πατρὸς ὑμῶν.</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Ἡμεῖς ἐκ πορνείας οὐ γεγενήμεθα· ἕνα πατέρα ἔχομεν τὸν θεόν.</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Εἰ ὁ θεὸς πατήρ ὑμῶν ἦν ἡγαπᾶτε ἂν ἐμέ, ἐγὼ γὰρ ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐξηλθὼν καὶ ἦκα· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἀπ' ἑμαυτοῦ ἐλήλυθα, ἀλλ' ἐκεῖνός με ἀπέστειλεν διὰ τί τὴν λαλίαν τὴν ἐμὴν οὐ γινώσκετε; ὅτι οὐ δύνασθε ἀκοῦναι τὸν λόγον τὸν ἐμὸν. ὑμεῖς ἐκ τοῦ πατρὸς τοῦ διαβόλου ἐστέ καὶ τὰς ἐπιθυμίας τοῦ πατρὸς ὑμῶν θέλετε ποιεῖν. ἐκεῖνος ἀνθρωποκτόνος ἦν ἀπ' ἀρχῆς καὶ ἐν τῇ ἀληθείᾳ οὐκ ἔστηκεν, ὅτι οὐκ ἐστὶν ἀλήθεια ἐν αὐτῷ. ὅταν λαλή τὸ ψεῦδος, ἐκ τῶν ἰδίων λαλεῖ, ὅτι ψεῦστης ἐστίν καὶ ὁ πατήρ αὐτοῦ. ἐγὼ δὲ ὅτι τὴν ἀλήθειαν λέγω, οὐ πιστευέτέ μοι. τίς ἐξ ὑμῶν ἐλέγχει με περὶ ἁμαρτίας; εἰ ἀλήθειαν λέγω, διὰ τί ὑμεῖς οὐ πιστεύετε μοι; ὃ ὧν ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ τὰ ῥήματα τοῦ θεοῦ ἀκούει· διὰ τοῦτο ὑμεῖς οὐκ ἀκούετε, ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ οὐκ ἐστέ.</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Οὐ καλῶς λέγομεν ἡμεῖς ὅτι Σαμαρίτης εἰ σὺ καὶ δαιμόνιον ἔχεις;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ἐγὼ δαιμόνιον οὐκ ἔχω, ἀλλὰ τιμῶ τὸν πατέρα μου, καὶ ὑμεῖς ἀτιμάζετέ με. ἐγὼ δὲ οὐ ζητῶ τὴν δόξαν μου· ἐστὶν ὁ ζητῶν καὶ κρίνων. ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἔαν τις τὸν ἐμὸν λόγον τηρήσῃ, θάνατον οὐ μὴ θεωρήσῃ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Νῦν ἐγνώκαμεν ὅτι δαιμόνιον ἔχεις. Ἀβραάμ ἀπέθανεν καὶ οἱ προφῆται, καὶ σὺ λέγεις, Ἐὰν τις τὸν λόγον μου τηρήσῃ, οὐ μὴ γεύσῃται θανάτου εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. μὴ σὺ μείζων εἰ τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν Ἀβραάμ, ὅστις ἀπέθανεν; καὶ οἱ προφῆται ἀπέθανον· τίνα σεαυτὸν ποιεῖς;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Ἐὰν ἐγὼ δοξάσω ἑμαυτόν, ἡ δόξα μου οὐδέν ἐστίν· ἐστὶν ὁ πατήρ μου ὁ δοξάζων με, ὃν ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι θεὸς ἡμῶν ἐστίν, καὶ οὐκ ἐγνώκατε αὐτόν, ἐγὼ δὲ οἶδα αὐτόν. καὶ εἶπω ὅτι οὐκ οἶδα αὐτόν, ἔσομαι ὅμοιος ὑμῖν ψεῦστης· ἀλλὰ οἶδα αὐτόν καὶ τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ τηρῶ. Ἀβραάμ ὁ πατήρ ὑμῶν ἡγαλλιάσατο ἵνα ἴδῃ τὴν ἡμέραν τὴν ἐμὴν, καὶ εἶδεν καὶ ἐχάρη.</p>

¹⁷⁰⁸ Slot # 7 is the largest slot with a concentrated dialogue between Jesus and the Jews.

	<i>Jews:</i> Πεντήκοντα ἔτη οὕτω ἔχεις καὶ Ἀβραὰμ ἐώρακας; <i>Jesus:</i> Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, πρὶν Ἀβραὰμ γενέσθαι ἐγὼ εἰμί.
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Table 62: The dialogue text of 7:1-52 and 8:12-59

9.2. Micro-Analysis

9.2.1. Slot One (7:1-9)

As indicated above, the dialogue-slot introduces a new setting with a wider outlook (cf. vv. Brant, 2004: 204; Daise, 2007: 18-9).¹⁷⁰⁹ The expression ὅτι ἐζήτουν αὐτὸν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἀποκτεῖναι informs the reader about the acute animosity of the Jews against Jesus (v. 1b; cf. 1997: 103).¹⁷¹⁰ This backdrop of the slot is helpful in understanding the conflict characterisation between Jesus and οἱ ἀδελφοὶ (vv. 3-4; cf. Van Tilborg, 1993: 13-5; M 1998: 237-9).¹⁷¹¹ The remarks of his brothers sound like a sarcastic outburst than one of genuine concern (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 6). The utterance of the brothers suggests three things to Jesus: *first*, “go to Judea so that your disciples also may see the works you are doing” (ὅπως τὴν Ἰουδαίαν, ἵνα καὶ οἱ μαθηταὶ σου θεωρήσουσιν σοὺ τὰ ἔργα ἃ ποιεῖς, v. 3);¹⁷¹² *second*, “one who wants to be widely known acts in secret” (οὐδεὶς γάρ τι ἐν κρυπτῷ ποιεῖ καὶ αὐτὸς ἐν παρρησίᾳ εἶναι, v. 4a); and *third*, “if you do these things show yourself to the world” (ταῦτα ποιεῖς, φανέρωσον σεαυτὸν τῷ κόσμῳ, v. 4b; cf. Robertson, 1932: 117-8; Painter, 2004: 291; see Table 63).¹⁷¹³ While the utterance of his brothers implicitly connotes that Jesus’ desire for his own glory, it explicitly brings out their unbelieving nature. The narratorial note

¹⁷⁰⁹ Bennema (2005: 87) says that, “The festival was originally a harvest festival and was an occasion of rejoicing. The festival was associated with the symbols of water and light. John draws on these symbols in chapters 7 and 8 respectively”. He (2005: 87) further says that, “John uses the Feast of Tabernacles as the backdrop for his self-revelation as the source of salvation”. Moloney (1998: 237; cf. *m. Sukk.* 2:8-9) says that, “But the Jewish Feast of Tabernacle is at hand (v. 2), and all male Jews had a duty to go to Jerusalem for this ‘pilgrim feast’”. Dodd (1952) says about vv. 1-2 as follows: “This has the appearance of a transitional passage, with its verbs in the continuous tense (περιπατεῖ, ἤθελεν, ἐζήτουν) and its interest in topography; and it may be such. But it does not in fact make a transition from ch. 6, for Jesus is already in Galilee”.

¹⁷¹⁰ Stibbe (1993: 89; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 61; Culpepper, 1983: 51-76) opines that, “. . . as the pace of the narrative decreases in speed from 7:1, so the intensity of the conflict increases”.

¹⁷¹¹ Keener (2003: 704) is of the opinion that, “In contrast to Galileans simply unwilling to follow, many wanted to *kill* Jesus (7:1)! (The phrase ‘seeking to kill’, with Jesus as object, is frequent in this gospel [5:18; 8:37, 40]). This transition also provides the introduction for the conflict between Jesus and his brothers. The slot provides a microcosm of Jesus’ larger conflict with the ‘world’ (7:4, 7), a conflict that quickly unfolds in the public confrontations in the relatively cosmopolitan center, Jerusalem”. Cf. Brown, 1966: 306; Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 139; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 257-8.

¹⁷¹² So far most of the signs performed by Jesus were done in the Galilean context (2:1-11; 4:46-54; 6:1-15; 11:1-18; only exception is 5: 1-18). Now, Jesus’ disciples are requesting him to perform more miracles in the Jerusalem context.

¹⁷¹³ Quast (1991/1996: 61) states that, “The brothers of Jesus suggested that it was time that Jesus should perform a miraculous work at a great public gathering in Jerusalem so that he would become widely known. They and the disciples needed the encouragement of a more open display of miracles”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Murray, 1987: 106-7; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 139; Brown, 1966: 306; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 257-8; Caird, 1963: 305-9; Witherington, 1995: 170; Painter, 1993: 291-3.

strengthens the explicit intention of the brothers with more clarity. The three-tier suggestion of the brothers paves the way for Jesus' response in vv. 6-8 (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 288-94; Neyrey, 2009: 193-4).

John 7:1-9	Overview
<p>v.1: Καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα περιεπάτει ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ· οὐ γὰρ ἤθελεν ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ περιπατεῖν, ὅτι ἐζήτουν αὐτὸν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἀποκτεῖναι.</p> <p>v.2: ἦν δὲ ἐγγὺς ἡ ἑορτὴ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἡ σκηνοπηγία.</p> <p>v.3: εἶπον οὖν πρὸς αὐτὸν οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ, Μετάβηθι ἐντεῦθεν καὶ ὕπαγε εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν, ἵνα καὶ οἱ μαθηταὶ σου θεωρήσουσιν σοῦ τὰ ἔργα ἃ ποιεῖς·</p> <p>v.4: οὐδεὶς γὰρ τι ἐν κρυπτῷ ποιεῖ καὶ ζητεῖ αὐτὸς ἐν παρρησίᾳ εἶναι. εἰ ταῦτα ποιεῖς, φανέρωσον σεαυτὸν τῷ κόσμῳ.</p> <p>v.5: οὐδὲ γὰρ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ ἐπίστευον εἰς αὐτόν.</p> <p>v.6: λέγει οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ὁ καιρὸς ὁ ἐμὸς οὐπω πάρεστιν, ὁ δὲ καιρὸς ὁ ὑμέτερος πάντοτε ἐστίν· ἔτοιμος.</p> <p>v.7: οὐ δύναται ὁ κόσμος μισεῖν ὑμᾶς, ἐμὲ δὲ μισεῖ, ὅτι ἐγὼ μαρτυρῶ περὶ αὐτοῦ ὅτι τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ πονηρά ἐστίν.</p> <p>v.8: ὑμεῖς ἀνάβητε εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν· ἐγὼ οὐκ ἀναβαίνω εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν ταύτην, ὅτι ὁ ἐμὸς καιρὸς οὐπω πεπλήρωται.</p> <p>v.9: ταῦτα δὲ εἰπὼν αὐτὸς ἔμεινεν ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 1-9 is comprised of two utterance units (vv. 3b-4, 6b-8); out of the three utterance units one is of the brothers of Jesus (vv. 3b-4) and one is of Jesus (vv. 6b-8);</p> <p>(2) This slot functions as a transition piece placed between 6:1-71 and 7:13-52/8:12-59. But, 7:1-9 can be identified as the first slot of the latter episode (i.e., 7:13-52/8:12-59);</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 1-2, 9), <i>narratorial note</i> (v. 5) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 3a, 6a).</p>

Table 63: The dialogue of 7:1-9 within the narratorial framework

Jesus' response to his brothers (vv. 6-8) is both the primary and the concluding talk of the slot. That is bracketed within a *καιρὸς*-centered *inclusion* between v. 6 and v. 8b: 'Ὁ καιρὸς ὁ ἐμὸς οὐπω πάρεστιν and ὅτι ὁ ἐμὸς καιρὸς οὐπω πεπλήρωται (cf. Robertson, 1932: 119-20).¹⁷¹⁴ Within the *καιρὸς*-centered *inclusion*, there are three pairs of contrasting clauses indicating the distinctive roles of Jesus and his brothers as follows: *first*, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always here" ('Ὁ καιρὸς ὁ ἐμὸς οὐπω πάρεστιν, ὁ δὲ καιρὸς ὁ ὑμέτερος πάντοτε ἐστίν· ἔτοιμος, v. 6; cf. Strachan, 1941: 198-9; Brant, 2004: 247);¹⁷¹⁵ *second*, "The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify against it that its works are evil" (οὐ δύναται ὁ κόσμος μισεῖν ὑμᾶς, ἐμὲ δὲ μισεῖ, ὅτι ἐγὼ μαρτυρῶ περὶ αὐτοῦ ὅτι τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ πονηρά ἐστίν, v. 7); and *third*, "Go to the festival yourselves. I am not going to the festival" (ὕμεῖς ἀνάβητε εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν· ἐγὼ οὐκ ἀναβαίνω εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν ταύτην, v. 8; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 61; Dodd, 1963: 322-5).¹⁷¹⁶ Jesus' utterance reveals his unique role, in the world, as the Son of God in contrast to the movements of his brothers. The narrator fills the gap between the utterance units by telling about the 'unbelieving nature' of the brothers (v. 5) and closes the dialogue by indicating about the 'staying back' of Jesus (v. 9; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 7; Cory, 1997: 102-3; see Table 63).¹⁷¹⁷ Thus the content of the dialogue is the

¹⁷¹⁴ The main thrust of Jesus' answer lies here by the repetition of his current status twice, both at the beginning and at the end. His opening expression 'Ὁ καιρὸς ὁ ἐμὸς οὐπω πάρεστιν is almost verbatim with the closing expression ὅτι ὁ ἐμὸς καιρὸς οὐπω πεπλήρωται (cf. vv. 6a and 8b).

¹⁷¹⁵ Quast (1991/1996: 61; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 292-93) contends that, "This the first of five references in this chapter to the special timing of an event in Jesus' future (cf. vv. 6, 8, 30, 33 and 39). We first encountered this concept in John 2:11, when Jesus tells his mother 'My hour has not yet come' (cf. John 7:30 and 8:20). Later, as the cross comes nearer, we will find more references to this hour (John 12: 23, 27; 13:1; 17:1). All are references to Jesus' crucifixion".

¹⁷¹⁶ See the comments on vv. 6-8 in Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 140-2; Bruce, 1983: 169-72; Painter, 1993: 291-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 106-7; Carson, 1991: 305-9; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Blomberg, 2001: 131-2.

¹⁷¹⁷ Stibbe (1993: 89) opines that, "... narratorial descriptions are crucial for the development of John's plot".

contrasting identities and ideologies of Jesus (i.e., the leader of the believing) and his brothers/representatives of the unbelieving).

The form of the dialogue in 7:1-9 can be analysed the following way (cf. Muilenburg, 1976). The dialogue text is arranged in a chiastic fashion within the narratorial framework (i.e., *narratorial* [vv. 1-2], *utterance* [vv. 3-4], *narratorial* [v. 5], *utterance* [vv. 6-8], *narratorial* [v. 9]).¹⁷¹⁸ The slot exists not only as a *conclusion* to the previous record of events/discourses (i.e., 6:1-71), but also as an *introduction* to the anticipated events/discourses ahead (cf. Bruce, 1983: 287; Dodd, 1960: 345-6).¹⁷¹⁹ The literary device *inclusion* is used at three levels within the slot: *first*, between v. 1 and v. 9 as a *Galilee* narrative (see, καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα περιεπάτει ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ and ταῦτα δὲ εἰπὼν αὐτὸς ἔμεινεν ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ); *second*, an *inclusion* within the slot, between v. 2 and v. 8 as the expression ἡ ἑορτὴ repeats both at the beginning and at the end of the narrative (cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 203); and *third*, another *inclusion* within the slot, between v. 6 and v. 8b (see, Ὁ καιρὸς ὃ ἐμὸς οὐπω πάρεστιν and ὅτι ὃ ἐμὸς καιρὸς πεπλήρωται, cf. Resseguie, 2005: 57-8).¹⁷²⁰ While the brothers' utterance unit (vv. 3-4) has the form of a *suggestion* and that includes micro-forms like a *sarcasm* (cf. Duke, 1985: 84; Dodd, 1963: 351), an *unbelief* and a *conditional statement* (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 136), Jesus' talk-unit (vv.

¹⁷¹⁸ See the *Narratorial* (vv. 1-2)-*Dialogue* (vv. 3-4)-*Narratorial* (v. 5)-*Dialogue* (vv. 6-8)-*Narratorial* (v. 9) structure of the snippet. These observations help the reader to look forward for the forthcoming dramatic conflict: the proclamations, persuasive initiatives, pedagogical tasks, and polemical purposes of the extended drama. For the use of the *explanatory note* (v. 5) the narrator attempts to reveal rather than to conceal the nature of the internal structure of the narrative. Cf. Witherington, 1995: 170-1; Carson, 1991: 305-9; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Bruce, 1983: 287; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 258-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 106-7; Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31.

¹⁷¹⁹ As a *conclusion* to a series of Galilean dialogues (chap. 6) the author now turns the attention of the reader to a dialogue between Jesus and his brothers (7:1-9). Dodd (1963: 324-5; cf. Cory, 1997: 103) says that, "... the author has written it up in his own style to serve the purpose of introduction to one of his most elaborate compositions: a sequence of controversial dialogues in chaps. 7-8". Van Tilborg (1993: 14) says that, "The narrator of the Gospel of John is a superb master in 'double connections', in narratively ambiguous connections". He connects the narrative block 6:1-71 and 7:13-8:59 with the help of 7:1-9.

¹⁷²⁰ Brown (1966: 308) says that, "When Jesus speaks of his 'time', he is speaking on the level of the divine 'time' is his 'hour', the hour of passion, death, resurrection, and ascension to the Father; and this time is not the time of this festival of Tabernacles—it is reserved for a subsequent Passover". Moloney (1998: 237) says that, "The author confines the impression of the reader by commenting frankly 'For even (οὐδὲ γὰρ) his brothers did not believe' (v. 5). The use of οὐδὲ γὰρ ('for even') indicates a wider scenario of disbelief. If not even his brothers believe, then there are also many others who do not believe". He (1998: 237) says further that, "They want his work to be seen by the disciples (v. 3). Jesus has done wonderful works (ἔργα) at Cana and by the Sea of Tiberias. The brothers of Jesus have been in the background since journeying from Cana to Capernaum with Jesus, his mother, and the brothers (cf. 2:12)". Moloney (1998: 237) continues saying that, "The use of 'but' (δὲ) shows there is conflict between two 'times'. The καιρὸς of Jesus is not at hand as the unfolding of his life is measured. Jesus' response draws a distinction between two 'times': 'my time' that has not yet come, and 'your time' that is always here (v. 6:11; 4:46-54; 6:1-13, 16-21. Bultmann (1971: 292) opines that, "Jesus' answer (v. 6) rejects the world's understanding of the matter, 'My time is not yet come; your time is always here'. The καιρὸς is the decisive moment plus the stream of time (χρονος), which is favorable for a particular action". Also see Brown, 1966: 306; Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Maniparampil, 2004: 267; Bruce, 1983: 169-72; Carson, 1991: 305-9; Witherington, 1995: 170-1; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138-42; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 106-7; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Painter, 1993: 291-3; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 256-9.

the form of a *negative reaction* which comprises of tenets like *contrasts*,¹⁷²¹ an *order* and *καὶρὸς-statements* (cf. Robertson, 1932: 117-20; Resseguie, 2001: 10-5; see Table 64).¹⁷²²

Utterance	Form	Content
Brothers	Sarcasm, unbelief statement, conditional statement	Brothers of Jesus tells him to go to Judea so that his disciples also may see the works that he is doing; No one who wants to be widely known acts in secret; If Jesus is doing signs and wonders, he must show himself to the world
Jesus	Negative reaction: Contrasting statements, order, καὶρὸς-statements	Jesus' time has not yet come (two times); His brothers' time is always here; The world cannot hate Jesus' brothers, but it hates Jesus because he testifies against it that its works are evil; Jesus tells his brothers to go to the festival and also tells them that he is not going; He is waiting for the full time

Table 64: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 7:1-9

The dialogue takes place within the family set up (i.e., as a 'Household Dialogue') as it is done among Jesus' own family members.¹⁷²³ The *challenge-to-riposte* format of the dialogue can be further elaborated in a five-tier fashion. Dodd (1963: 322) sees the similarities between the dialogues of John 7:1-9 and Luke 13:31-35 and suggests a five-tier development as follows: first, *approach to Jesus* (v. 3a; Luke 13:31a); second, *advice offered* (v. 3b; Luke 13:31b); third, *reason given* (v. 4; Luke 13:31c); fourth, *advice rejected* (v. 6; Luke 13:32-33a); and fifth, *reason given* (v. 7-8; Luke 13:33b).¹⁷²⁴ Jesus' tension between 'going' and 'not going' can be considered as a *situational irony*¹⁷²⁵ in order to develop a wider dramatic tension within the episode (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 70-3). The dialogue moves in an equal 'give and take' proportion. A proportion of *fifty-fifty interaction* is maintained as there is one *tri-tier suggestion* by his brothers (vv. 3-4) and another *tri-tier negation* by Jesus (vv. 6-8). The usage of *twofold* (or *double meaning*) in 7:8 on the ambiguity of "going up" (to Jerusalem or to the Father?) works within the dynamism of the larger

¹⁷²¹ The phrases like "my time . . . your time", "the world cannot hate . . . but it hates", and "go to the festival . . . I am not going" are introducing contrasting elements within the utterance.

¹⁷²² Neyrey (2009: 192) says that, "It is now apparent that in the Synoptic Gospels the endless conflict between Jesus and his adversaries is portrayed in terms of the *chreia*, in particular the 'responsive *chreia*'. This type of narrative showcases the wit and cleverness of a sage; hence 'honor' and 'praise' are its formal aims". He (2009: 192) further says that, "In the Fourth Gospel, the ambiguous *chreia*, is metamorphosed into a formal forensic proceeding against Jesus, which transforms the hostile questions and criticism into legal charges, which if sustained, would end in Jesus' ruin". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 258-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Witherington, 1995: 170-1; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 106-7; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138-40; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Carson, 1991: 305-9.

¹⁷²³ Köstenberger (2004: 228-31) states that, "The brothers' words . . . betray *misunderstanding*, for it is not Jesus' failure to 'show himself to the world' that impedes the reception of his message but the world's sinful rejection of its Creator". See Carson, 1991: 305-6; Blomberg, 2001: 131-2; Painter, 1993: 291-3; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Barrett, 1978: 308-13; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 106-7; Bruce, 1983: 169-72; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 140-2.

¹⁷²⁴ Dodd (1963: 322-3) says that, "In both he (Jesus) affirms . . . his independence and sovereign freedom to choose his course . . . a hint of the approaching climax . . . some ambiguity about the motives of the interlocutors . . . Finally, both passages are in some way associated with the move from Galilee to Jerusalem (or Judea)".

¹⁷²⁵ At first the author says that Jesus does not go to Jerusalem; but later he goes. The author confuses the reader and creates a possibility that "Jesus' words and acts are unparalleled". This tension of the reader increases the dramatic possibility of the narrative.

narrative (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 89; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 6).¹⁷²⁶ The dialogue closes by a narratorial comment in v. 9 (i.e., αὐτὸς ἔμεινεν ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ).¹⁷²⁷ Taking into consideration both the utterance units and the subsequent action of Jesus we can attribute a *suggestion-negative reaction-positive action* sequence for the dialogue as the overarching format of the dialogue. Neyrey (2007: 136) comments on the development of the dialogue as follows: “The brother Jesus to go to the feast (7:3-4), a suggestion that he categorically rejects (7:7-9). Yet he eventually travels to the feast (7:10).”¹⁷²⁹ While the dialogue section in vv. 3-9 generates a *suspense* for the subsequent action of Jesus in v. 10 brings the slot into a *surprise*. The rejection theme of the dialogue works within this framework of the *suggestion-negative reaction-positive action* format of the dialogue.¹⁷³⁰

The structural pattern of the larger section of 7:1-10:21 places the dialogue between Jesus and his brothers (7:1-9) at the forefront and also that functions as an introduction to all the subsequent dialogues (cf. Van Tilborg, 1993: 15).¹⁷³¹ The *inclusio talk* of Jesus, i.e., ‘Ο καιρὸς ὁ ἐμὸς παρῆστί ἐστιν . . . ὅτι ὁ ἐμὸς καιρὸς οὐ πῶς πεπλήρωται (vv. 6-8), prepares the reader for the anticipated *time* ahead. Jesus’ total surrender to/dependence on God the Father and his coming on ‘his own time’ are key elements within the dialogue.¹⁷³² Jesus’ role is outlined as one of

¹⁷²⁶ Keener (2003: 708; cf. Talbert, 1992: 144; Duke, 1985: 144) says that, “. . . John exhibits many doublets. It is also possible that ‘go up’ in 7:8 alludes back to 6:62 (cf. 3:13; 20:17): it was not yet time for Jesus to die (ἀναβαίνειν), for he would accomplish his ‘going up’ in the ultimate sense when he ascended back to the Father of the cross at his final Passover (cf. 2:4)”. Cf. Brown, 1966: cxxxv-cxxxvii; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 140-2; Murray, 1987: 106-7; Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Witherington, 1995: 170-1.

¹⁷²⁷ Resseguie (2001: 15) says that, “When the narrator intrudes into the narrative to speak in his own voice from an ideological perspective”. See Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 142; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Beasley-Murray, 1993: 291-3; Witherington, 1995: 170; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 259; Blomberg, 2001: 131-2.

¹⁷²⁸ Neyrey (2007: 137) states that, “The brothers make a positive *challenge* to Jesus . . . Jesus responds by emphasizing spatial and temporal differences between them”. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138-42.

¹⁷²⁹ Talbert (1992: 144) sees a concentric pattern by the link phrase ‘in secret’ as follows: A: v. 1: “Jesus went to Galilee, because the Jews sought to kill him”; B: vv. 2-4: “His brothers say to Jesus: Go to Judea, because you work in secret if he seeks to be known”; B’: vv. 6-8a: “Jesus says to his brothers: Go yourselves, because your time has not come, your time is always here”; A’: vv. 8b-9: “Because his time had not fully come, Jesus remained in Galilee”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Painter, 1993: 291-3; Beasley-Murray, 1993: 106-7; Carson, 1991: 305-9; Giblin, 1980: 206-8; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138-42; Blomberg, 2001: 131-2.

¹⁷³⁰ Duke (1985: 111) says, “Jesus’ rejection by his own is not confined to Israel itself, however. More broadly, the *world* was made through him yet does not know him (1:10). More narrowly, Jesus’ own brothers do not believe in him (7:5); and his disciples defect (6:66) or deny their relationship (18:17, 25, 27), or satanically turn to him (13:21).”

¹⁷³¹ Ashton (1991: 330) rightly points out that, “No chapter in the Gospel poses more problems of analysis than chapter 7, one, and the continuing disagreement is not surprising”. The dialogue-section of 7:1-9 is a continuation of the dialogues already in process with the Jews, the larger group of disciples, and the Twelve (6:22-71). According to Moloney (1998: 232), “7:1-10:21 is entirely dedicated to the presence of Jesus in Jerusalem for the celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles. The temporal unity across 7:1-10:21 is not broken until the narrator announces the feast of the Tabernacles in 10:21”. Wise (1992: 240) says that, “The narrative units that together comprise John 7 are dramatical around the feast, so that in verses 1-9 the feast is near, in the verses 10-13 Jesus goes up to the festival, in vv. 14-18 he is teaching during the festival week, and verses 37-52 narrate what occurred on the last day of the festival. The recurring festival narratives are knitted together in order to orient the readers toward the anticipated continuation of the extended story of the Gospel.”

¹⁷³² Van Tilborg (1993: 16) states that, “The opening and closing sentence deal with the *kairos* (7:6 and 7:8) and the decisive moment that things happen. Jesus distinguishes between his own *kairos* and that of his brothers.”

according to the time and plan of God the Father. Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 141) say that, “Jesus’ riposte to the challenge issued by his brothers (7:2-5) is simply to reject it for the present moment By suggesting that his hour has not yet come, however, Jesus implies that it soon will”. This anticipated *time* factor is linked to the internal thread of the macro Johannine narrative (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 292-3).¹⁷³³ In the Cana incident, Jesus told his mother (2:4) that his hour has not yet come (i.e., οὐπω ἦκει ἡ ὥρα μου, cf. Keener, 2003: 704-5; Strachan, 1941: 198-9). While conversing with his brothers, the same expression is repeated twice (7:6, 8).¹⁷³⁴ The delimitation of the text as a household dialogue and its analeptic and proleptic tendencies strengthen the dramatic nature and performative function of the pericope (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24). The reader of the story can notice a sudden shift from the character of Jesus as an ‘eloquent dialoguer’ with the community (6:25-71) to a dialoguer who works in secret here (7:1-9; cf. Van Tilborg, 1993: 13-5). The themes like Jesus’ works versus the works of the world, his acts in public versus the acts in secret, showing himself to the world, his time, belief and unbelief conflict, and the activity of testifying make special impact within and beyond the narrative framework (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 5-31).¹⁷³⁵ Through these the reader of the story learns about the hour of Jesus.

In the narrative, the saying of Jesus is revelatory as it reveals his struggle within the family setting (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 293; Painter, 1993: 290-1).¹⁷³⁶ Köstenberger (1998: 145; cf. Smith, 1999: 167-8) says that, “Contrasted with the unbelief of Jesus’ own brothers is the loyalty of Jesus’ inner circle (cf. 7:2-5), and discipleship is the subject of various discourses (cf. 8:12, 31; 9:27-29; and chap. 10)”.¹⁷³⁷ The belief-unbelief conflict of the story discloses the dramatic shift of the narrative. The narrator is very successful in picking up the words, prefiguring the context, and arranging the dialogue in order to shape the overall structure of the narrative without anomaly (cf. Windisch, 1993: 25-64). The Jewish enmity toward Jesus (after chaps. 2 and 5) is brought out in plain language here. Barton (1992: 229) says about Jesus’ brothers that, “Their unbelief is representative

sisters. He knows one single time which is determined from outside himself and to which he is subject. The ἀδελφοὶ do not have such a *kairos*: all time is their time”.

¹⁷³³ The process time in John’s story is beginning to slow down. If chaps. 2-4 depict a period of one year, chaps. 5-10 depict a period of about four months. As we shall see chaps. 11-12 depict a period of about two weeks, while chaps. 13-19 cover only 24 hours at the most. See Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 256-8; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138; Witherington, 1995: 171; Carson, 1991: 305-9; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Bruce, 1983: 169-72; Painter, 1993: 291-3; Manipampil, 2004: 267; Blomberg, 2001: 131-2. Cf. 7:1-8:59; 10:22-39.

¹⁷³⁴ With little variations; cf. ‘ο καιρὸς ὃ ἐμὸς οὐπω πάρεστιν, v. 6; and ὅτι ὃ ἐμὸς καιρὸς οὐπω πεπλήρωται, v. 8. Cf. Brown, 1966: 306-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 106-7; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138-42; Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Witherington, 1995: 170-1; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 256-8; Painter, 1993: 291-3. Though there is a shift from ἡ ὥρα in 2:4 to ‘ο καιρὸς in 7:6 and 8, the basic idea expressed is synonymous. Stibbe (1993: 95) says that, “Important to the plot are the narrator’s notations of time. There are indications of process time in John 7—‘Not until halfway through the Feast’ (v. 14) and ‘On the last and greatest day of the Feast’ (v. 37) are two of them”.

¹⁷³⁵ John’s dialogue develops by the help of all these themes. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Carson, 1991: 305-9; Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 256-8; Witherington, 1995: 170-1; Brown, 1966: 306-8; Bruce, 1983: 169-72; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138-42; Blomberg, 2001: 131-2; Barrett, 1978: 308-13.

¹⁷³⁶ In 7:37-39, Jesus claims to be the source of life-giving water; in 8:12, Jesus presents himself as the life-giving light.

¹⁷³⁷ Cf. Dodd, 1963: 322-4; Painter, 1993: 291-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 106-7; Blomberg, 2001: 131-2; Barrett, 1978: 308-13; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 258; Bruce, 1983: 169-72; Carson, 1991: 305-9.

of the unbelief of ‘the Jews’ and of Jerusalem and Judea as a whole”.¹⁷³⁸ While the brother dialogue shows their attitude toward Jesus, Jesus’ talk reveals his attitude toward his brothers as the world of this world (cf. Dodd, 1963: 322-5). The elements like the selection of words, plot structure, characterisation, and point of view help the reader of the dialogue to prepare her/himself for the forthcoming discussions of the episode (cf. MacRae, 1993: 103-13; Elam, 1980: 13). Through all these, the implied reader of the story is further informed about the unbelieving and unbelieved natures of humanity. The content of contrasting identities of Jesus and his brothers is framed within a *suggestion-negative response-positive action* dialogue. This formula helps the reader to recognise the conflict and characterisation of the story and to move forward with anticipation.

9.2.2. Slot Two (7:10-13)

The second slot (vv. 10-13) is well connected to the previous “Household Dialogue” (the first slot) by way of a narratorial link in v. 10.¹⁷³⁹ ‘Ὡς δὲ is an explicit connecting link from the previous slot to the latter, the expression: ἀδελφοὶ (v. 10; cf. 3a, 5), τὴν ἑορτήν (vv. 10, 11; cf. vv. 2, 8) and ἐν κρυπτῷ¹⁷⁴⁰ (v. 10; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 294; Keener, 2003: 708) show the synonymous expressions of the first slot (see vv. 1-13; cf. Robertson, 1932: 120-1).¹⁷⁴¹ In vv. 10-13, the narratorial expressions like Ἰουδαῖοι ἐζήτουν αὐτὸν (‘the Jews were looking for him’, v. 11),¹⁷⁴² καὶ γογγυσμὸς περὶ αὐτοῦ ἦν πολὺς ἐν τοῖς ὄχλοις (‘and there was considerable complaining about him among the people’, v. 12),¹⁷⁴³ and οἱ μὲν ἔλεγον . . . ἄλλοι [δὲ] ἔλεγον (‘while some were saying . . . others

¹⁷³⁸ Jesus’ struggle both within his physical household (7:1-9) and public life (7:10-8:59) are delineated through the dialogues in the episode. Cf. Brown, 1966: 306-8; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 138-42; Carson, 1995: 103-4; Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 258.

¹⁷³⁹ Bultmann (1971: 288-95) treats vv. 1-13 together as a single whole. But, the transfer of setting from the atmosphere in Galilee to the community atmosphere in Jerusalem has to be considered here. Keener (2003: 708) and Dodd (1960: 345; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 6-8; Talbert, 1992: 143-5) considers the section vv. 1-13 as a single unit and titles it “Jesus Goes to the Feast”. But he sub-divides it into two parts: *first*, Jesus and his brothers (vv. 1-9); and *second*, Jesus’ secret presence at the festival (vv. 10-13).

¹⁷⁴⁰ Lindars (1972: 285; cf. Painter, 1993: 292) says that, “. . . this means that he has moved out into the open so that there is implied a progression from obscurity to clarity, from darkness to light (cf. 8:12)”.

¹⁷⁴¹ As in 2:4-7 and 4:48-50 an initial unwillingness to be part of an action is reversed. Moloney (1998: 239) says that, “The brothers go up to the feast (v. 10a), and Jesus (καὶ αὐτὸς) makes the pilgrimage. The main affirming sentence is that Jesus went up to Jerusalem (v. 10b). His earlier decision is reversed”. Morris (1995: 355) says that, “Jesus differentiated himself from his brothers. They went up to the feast, but he did not go up with them. They had gone, he went up also. But he did not go up in the way they suggested. John is clear that others followed down the pattern of Jesus”. See Hoskyns, 1947: 313; Lindars, 1972: 285-6; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 259-60; Carson, 1995/1957: 176-7; Westcott, 1958: 117-8. Moloney (1998: 240) initiates to connect the two slots in the following way: “His brothers demanded of Jesus, ‘Show yourself to the world’ (φανέρωσον σεαυτὸν τῷ κόσμῳ) (v. 4). In contrast to the plans of the brothers Jesus goes up to the feast ‘not publicly but in private’ (v. 10b: οὐ φανερώσει σεαυτὸν ἐν κρυπτῷ)”.

¹⁷⁴² Neyrey (2007: 139) says that, “‘Seek’ is another of those pesky double-meaning words. Although it often means friendly association with Jesus (1:38-39), in this context it means a hostile assault on him”.

¹⁷⁴³ Keener (2003: 710) is of the opinion that, “That the crowd was divided (7:12; cf. 12:29) is not surprising. Judaism was very diverse on a variety of matters, and a crowd of Jews from around the world gathered for the feast”.

saying', v. 13)¹⁷⁴⁴ show both positive and negative characterisations and initiatives within the 'community-based utterances'.¹⁷⁴⁵ Hendriksen (1961: 2: 8; cf. Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 203-4; Bruce, 1983: 173-4) says that, "... the Jews, consisting mainly or exclusively of the religious leaders of Jerusalem who were hostile to Jesus, had been expecting him (Jesus) earlier Their intentions, in view of 5:18 and 7:25, cannot have been friendly. Yet 9:22 and 11:49-53 are still future". A reader of the slot can understand the antagonistic tendencies of the Jews (and also a group of the crowd; vv. 11-13) underlined within the slot by the help of the narratorial inferences (cf. Chatman, 1978: 15-42; see Table 65).¹⁷⁴⁶

John 7:10-13	Overview
<p>v.10: Ὡς δὲ ἀνέβησαν οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ εἰς τὴν ἑορτὴν, τότε καὶ αὐτὸς ἀνέβη οὐ φανερώς ἀλλὰ [ὡς] ἐν κρυπτῷ.</p> <p>v.11: οἱ οὖν Ἰουδαῖοι ἐζήτουν αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ ἑορτῇ καὶ ἔλεγον, Ποῦ ἐστὶν ἐκεῖνος;</p> <p>v.12: καὶ γογγυσμὸς περὶ αὐτοῦ ἦν πολὺς ἐν τοῖς ὄχλοις· οἱ μὲν ἔλεγον ὅτι Ἀγαθὸς ἐστὶν, ἄλλοι [δὲ] ἔλεγον, Οὐ, ἀλλὰ πλανᾷ τὸν ὄχλον.</p> <p>v.13: οὐδεὶς μὲντοι παρρησίᾳ ἐλάλει περὶ αὐτοῦ διὰ τὸν φόβον τῶν Ἰουδαίων.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 10-13 is comprised of three utterance units (vv. 11b, 12b, 12c); out of the three utterance units one is of the Jews (v. 11b) and two are of the crowd (vv. 12b, 12c);</p> <p>(2) While the utterance of the Jews in v. 11b functions as part of an implicit dialogue, vv. 12b and 12c are part of an explicit dialogue. The utterances show the reaction of the community reaction toward Jesus;</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 10-11a, 12a, 13) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 11b, 12b, 12c).</p>

Table 65: The dialogue of 7:10-13 within the narratorial framework

The content of the utterance units develops in two-tier fashion within this slot. The Jewish question in v. 11b (i.e., Ποῦ ἐστὶν ἐκεῖνος;) is introduced as part of an *implicit dialogue* and it is all about a search for Jesus (cf. Robertson, 1932: 120-1).¹⁷⁴⁷ The appearance of the Greek expression ἐζήτουν

might prove even more diverse than our literary and epigraphic sources reveal". See Lindars, 1972: 285-6; Westcott, 1958: 117-8; Lightfoot, 1956/1957: 176-7; Morris, 1995: 356-7; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 143-4; Turner and Matney, 1976; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 259-60.

¹⁷⁴⁴ See the 'alternative personal pronoun' here, i.e., οἱ μὲν ἔλεγον . . . ἄλλοι [δὲ] ἔλεγον (cf. Wallace, 1996: 212-3).

¹⁷⁴⁵ Fortna treats Ἰουδαῖος as part of his attempt to describe John's theological use of locale in the FG. According to Fortna, John has used the word Ἰουδαῖος in the sense not of 'Jews' but in the sense of 'Judean' (cf. Fortna, 1974: 89; Von Wahlde, NTS: 36). Von Wahlde (NTS: 36) states that, "Thus he [Fortna] concludes passages having the terms Φαρισαῖοι, ἀρχιερεῖς, ἄρχοντες, ὄχλος, as well as the reactions of *individuals*. The overwhelming characteristic of the Jews, according to Fortna, is their unreceptivity and indeed hostility toward Jesus". Painter (1993: 288) also has a similar view and he states that, "The names (crowd, Jews, Pharisees, chief-priests) appear to represent different groups but those within the groups overlap in some ways with those in other groups. This at times gives the impression that the groups are not distinct". Bennema (2009: 112) supports both Fortna and Painter while he says, "Throughout John 7, Jesus' audience is a mix of the crowd (the common people), 'the Jews' (the particular Torah- and temple-loyalists), and the leaders of 'the Jews'—the Pharisees, the chief priests or 'rulers/authorities', and the temple police".

¹⁷⁴⁶ Brant (2004: 152; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 128) is of the opinion that, "... there are numerous mentions of belief that is hesitant to declare itself openly because of 'fear of the Jews' (7:13; cf. 19:38; 20:19), and especially a fear of being put out of the synagogue (9:22; 12:42)".

¹⁷⁴⁷ Bennema (2005: 86) opines that, "The Jews' in John function as a character-type, embodying a particular response towards Jesus. As such, 'the Jews' should be distinguished from other Jewish characters, such as the crowd, Nicodemus, John the Baptist, the disciples, the lame man and the man born blind". Stibbe (1993: 93) says that, "The group identified as the Jews in 7:11, 13 and 33 is hard to distinguish from the chief priests and Pharisees. The fact that they are taking an up-front role in looking for Jesus in 7:11, as well as their presence with the crowds in 7:35, would

clearly marks the representative nature of the question here. The complaining (γογγυσμός) the crowds develops as an *explicit dialogue* in v. 12b: some were saying that “he is a good” (Ἀγαθός ἐστιν); and others were saying that “No, he is deceiving the crowd” (Οὐ, ἀλλὰ πλῆθος ᾧ, cf. Dodd, 1960: 352-3; Smith, 1999: 169).¹⁷⁴⁸ Painter (1993: 289; cf. Keener, 2009) opines that, “. . . the crowd is viewed as distinct from the Jews in the fear of the Jews in an open debate about Jesus, 7:13”.¹⁷⁴⁹ What Painter says here makes sense for the reader: the *implicit dialogue* in v. 11 and the conflicting verbal exchange in v. 12b are two entirely different conversations developing side by side among the people (see Table 65).

The second slot is framed by the help of a literary device called the *secrecy motif*: Jesus’ *travel* to Jerusalem (v. 10) and the crowd’s *secret discussion* about Jesus (v. 13) are included in a *narratorial inclusion* in which both the *implicit dialogue* (v. 11) and the *explicit dialogue* are included (cf. Neyrey, 2009: 194; Stibbe, 1991: 23-5).¹⁷⁵⁰ The Jewish quest in v. 11 and the crowd’s opposing statements (i.e., one positive and the other negative) in v. 12b are considered as representative voices from different quarters¹⁷⁵¹ developing around the theme of Jesus’ *travel* to Jerusalem (see Table 66).¹⁷⁵² The utterance units develop from the Jewish *implicit dialogue* in v. 11 to the crowd’s *conflictive dialogue* about the identity of Jesus in v. 12b (cf. Robertson, 1932: 120-1).¹⁷⁵³ Whereas the question in v. 11 is about the destination of Jesus, the conflictive dialogue in v. 12b is about his identity (cf. Painter, 1993: 289). In v. 12b, the characters use their *judgments/perceptions* positively and negatively (see Table 66). As elsewhere, here the evangelist resorts to the device of “contradictory voices” (7:12; cf. vv. 40-42; 9:16; 10:19-21; cf. Hays, 1984: 2: 7-8; Brant, 2004: 46, 182).¹⁷⁵⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 143; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 9) says that, “The stylistic device of contradictory voices is one which the evangelist uses on several occasions (7:12b; cf. 7:40-42; 9:16; 10:19-21)”. The antithetical nature of the dialogue

seem to indicate that they are not identical with the backstage hierarchy”. Cf. Lightfoot, 1956/1957: 176-7; 1958: 117-8; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 143-4; Lindars, 1972: 285.

¹⁷⁴⁸ Hendriksen (1961: 2:8) opines that, “They saw in Jesus a mere demagogue, a man to be shunned, a false prophet, one who was interested in getting the crowd or mob (τὸν ὄχλον) on his side, ingratiating himself with the people for selfish purposes”. Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 143-4; Carson, 1991: 309-10; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 8: 1958: 117-8; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 259-60; Blomberg, 2001: 132-3.

¹⁷⁴⁹ Haenchen (1984: 2: 8) says that, “. . . the speakers in verse 13 are also Jews does not fit the picture depicted (which is historically impossible) and is not therefore mentioned”. Cf. Tenney, 1948: 131; Barrett, 1978: 313; 1983: 173-4.

¹⁷⁵⁰ Neyrey (2007: 140; cf. Painter, 1993: 290-2) says that, “The narrative audience knows that this public judgment means a judgment against Jesus, ‘For fear of ‘the Jews’ no one spoke openly of him’”. Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 19; Lightfoot, 1956/1957: 176-7; Blomberg, 2001: 132-3; Carson, 1991: 309-10; Westcott, 1958: 117-8; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 143-4.

¹⁷⁵¹ I. e., from the Jewish authorities and from the crowd.

¹⁷⁵² For more details about the description of the conflict, refer to Robertson, 1932: 120-21. Also see Lindars, 1972: 285-6; Barrett, 1978: 313-4; Bruce, 1983: 173-4.

¹⁷⁵³ Bultmann (1971: 294) says that, “Jesus’ previous activity disquiets the crowd at the feast; they raise questions and counter-questions about him”.

¹⁷⁵⁴ Quast (1991/1996: 62) states that, “During the first few days in Jerusalem, even while Jesus remained calm, divisions arose among the people concerning him ([Jesus]; 7:12)”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 231; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 8; Lindars, 1972: 285-6; Hoskyns, 1947: 312-3; Witherington, 1995: 171; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 143; Carson, 1991: 309-10; Blomberg, 2001: 132-3.

determined by the expressions like γογγυσμός ('complaining', v. 12).¹⁷⁵⁵ While the first and third slots (vv. 1-9 and 14-36) develop as the 'front of stage' dialogues,¹⁷⁵⁶ the second one develops as a 'rear of stage' dialogue.¹⁷⁵⁷ The dialogic elements (i.e., both *implicit* and *explicit*) within the narratorial framework add dramatic features to the slot (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-220).¹⁷⁵⁸

Utterance	Form	Content
Jews	Search question	Where is Jesus?
Some from the crowds	A positive statement/judgment/perception	Jesus is a good man
Some others	A negative statement/judgment/perception	Jesus is deceiving the crowd

Table 66: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 7:10-13

The second slot (vv. 10-13) not only functions as a secret/representative/conflictive dialogue but also as a connecting link between the previous and the succeeding slots (vv. 1-9; cf. vv. 14-36; cf. Brant, 200: 218-9). Pryor (1992: 35) speaks about the linkage between the first two slots in the following words: "In the opening verses (7:1-13) John eventually translates Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem". In another sense, one can notice the way vv. 1-13 functions as a background for the central dialogue sections in the succeeding slots (cf. Keener, 2003: 708-11). The second slot also functions as a subsidiary slot¹⁷⁵⁹ that increases dramatic tension within the extended episode (cf. Smith, 1999: 169; Cory, 1997: 103). It discloses the diverse attitudes and reactions of the Jews/the crowd toward Jesus (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 6-8).¹⁷⁶⁰ Within the extended episode, this section (vv. 10-13) shows the eagerness and expectations developed among the people concerning the person and work of Jesus. The features like conflict-orientation and characterisation are noticeable elements of the slot (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 294-5; Strachan, 1941: 199). The development of the conflict in vv. 11-13 is further reflected in the acute controversial sections in the following dialogic

¹⁷⁵⁵ Talbert (1992: 144) ascribes a chiastic structure for vv. 10-14 as follows: A: v. 10: "Jesus went up (*anēbēsan*), not publicly but privately; (a) "the Jews were looking for him at the feast" (v. 11); B: vv. 11-13: (b) "People mutter, 'He is a good man', or 'He is leading the people astray'" (v. 12); (a') "For fear of the Jews (9:22; 12:42; 19:12-13, 38; 20:19) no one spoke openly of him" (v. 13); A': v. 14: "Jesus went up (*anēbē*), publicly. Cf. Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 8; Lightfoot, 1956/1957: 176-7; Painter, 1993: 289; Lindars, 1972: 285-6; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 143-4; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 259-60; Morris, 1995: 356-7; Pryor, 1992: 35.

¹⁷⁵⁶ Whereas the first and the third slots develop by highlighting the interactions between Jesus and his interlocutors in different contexts, the second slot develops by representing the voices only of his interlocutors.

¹⁷⁵⁷ In the second slot, Jesus' utterances are not represented; but, he is only looked at by representative characters from different angles. See the 'front of stage' and the 'rear of stage' developments of dialogues in John 4:1-42.

¹⁷⁵⁸ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 203) suggests that, "... while 7:1-9 describes Jesus' dialogue with his unbelieving brothers in Galilee, 7:10-13 mentions Jesus' going up to Jerusalem secretly (7:10) and depicts the dramatic situation there ... thus setting the stage for what is to come".

¹⁷⁵⁹ As a 'rear of stage' dialogue, it can also be considered as complimentary to the first and third slots.

¹⁷⁶⁰ Its development from Jewish quest (v. 11) to crowd's conflictive utterances (v. 12b) reveals the diverse natures of Jesus' interlocutors. Jesus' interlocutors are not only the supportive group within Judaism but also the rebellious group (i.e., the Jews with their quest about the destination of Jesus and one group of the crowd who say that "he [Jesus] is deceiving the crowd"). See Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 8; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 259-60; Morris, 1995: 355-7; Lindars, 1972: 285-6; Lightfoot, 1956/1957: 176-7; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 143-4; Blomberg, 2001: 132-3; Carson, 1991: 309-10; Hoskyns, 1947: 312-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 107; Bruce, 1983: 173-4.

slots (cf. Brant, 2004: 204).¹⁷⁶¹ Witherington (1995: 171) says that, “. . . in vv. 11-13 the clear distinction made between the Jews who are seeking Jesus with malicious intent and the crowds who are divided about Jesus. The Jewish authorities are pursuing a quest in regard to Jesus, but it is a negative one, and thus is frustrated by divine providence”.¹⁷⁶² As Witherington's analysis of the utterance units in the second slot show, *first*, the conflictive natures among Jesus' interlocutors and, *second*, the antithetical natures developed among the interlocutors toward Jesus (cf. Witherington, 2003: 710-1). While the pure narratives take the reader backward to the past, the seams of the narrative framework make the characters converse to the reader (cf. Motyer, 1993; Chatman, 1978: 62-3). The language of the slot, by intertwining both the pure narratives and the utterance units, is rhetorical as the reader of the text is persuaded to interact with both the narrator and the characters (cf. Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-40; Vorster, 2009: 505-78). While the content of the dialogue is about the destination and identity of Jesus, the form used to convey the message is both implicit and explicit dialogues. The narrator of the story persuades the reader to take part in the dialogue with Jesus the 'good man' (cf. Van der Watt, 2007: 15).

9.2.3. Slot Three (7:14-36)¹⁷⁶³

The content of the third dialogic slot (vv. 14-36) can be viewed as follows.¹⁷⁶⁴ After discussing the conflictive 'community dialogue' in vv. 10-14, the narrator sets the time ("ἤδη δὲ τῆς μεσούσης")¹⁷⁶⁵ and place (εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν) of the event, and the entry (ἀνέβη Ἰησοῦς) and the teaching (ἐδίδασκεν)¹⁷⁶⁶ of the protagonist for the third slot (v. 14).¹⁷⁶⁷ In the third slot (vv. 14-36), expressions like ἐθαύμαζον οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι λέγοντες ('the Jews were astonished at it, said')¹⁷⁶⁸ ἀπεκρίθη ὁ ὄχλος ('the crowd answered', v. 20a), "Ἐλεγον οὖν τινες

¹⁷⁶¹ Neyrey (2007: 140) says that, "There was 'considerable complaining' about him (7:12), a translation of the biblical term 'murmuring', which identified hostile outsiders earlier (6:41, 43, 61)".

¹⁷⁶² Witherington (1995: 171) further comments that, "Verse 13 makes clear the distinction. The crowds speak openly about Jesus because of the fear of the Jews (i.e., Jewish authorities opposed to Jesus)".

¹⁷⁶³ Dodd (1960: 346) divides vv. 14-36 into two self-contained dialogue sections (vv. 14-24 and vv. 25-36). In our analysis we consider vv. 14-36 as a single unit where Jesus is the constant dialoguer with several groups of interlocutors. The main thing to notice here is that there is no change of setting from vv. 14-24 to vv. 25-36.

¹⁷⁶⁴ For information about "the circumstantial relation between meaning and content", refer to Barwise, 1988.

¹⁷⁶⁵ Köstenberger (2004: 232) remarks that, "The present section constitutes the second smaller scene in the drama. 'Halfway' through the feast is a vague expression that may refer to the exact middle of the feast [i.e., the middle of the day] or merely to a time other than the first or the last day (cf. 7:37)".

¹⁷⁶⁶ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 145) says that, "His 'teaching' in the temple (vv. 14, 28; cf. 8:20) simply provides the framework for his self-revelation; it leads to objections and interpretations which are the occasion for his starker self-utterance".

¹⁷⁶⁷ Neyrey (2007: 140) says that, "While Jesus remains in private (7:10), he cannot be arrested. But when he enters the Temple (7:14), a trial immediately ensues (see 10:22)". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 317; Bruce, 1983: 174-175; 1991: 311; Hoskyns, 1947: 313-4; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 108; Tenney, 1948: 132; Morris, 1995: 358.

¹⁷⁶⁸ The Pharisees belonged to the Sanhedrin, not as a party, but as members of a group of men who interpreted the Scriptures. Josephus points to the Pharisees' influence among the people. See, John 3:1; 7:32, 45; 11:47, and 18:3; also see *Ant.* 13.10.5 §288; 18.1.4 §17. Westerholm (1992: 614) states that, "As a rule, John paints with a broad brush. Jesus' opponents appear often simply as 'Jews' without more specific identification. When Pharisees do figure, they are often represented as holding positions of power and acting in collaboration with the Jewish authorities".

Ἱεροσολυμιτῶν ('now some of the people of Jerusalem were saying', v. 25a),¹⁷⁶⁹ Ἐκ τοῦ ὄχλου δὲ πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτὸν καὶ ἔλεγον ('yet many in the crowd believed in him and were saying', v. 31a), and καὶ ἀπέστειλαν οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ οἱ Φαρισαῖοι ὑπηρέτας ἵνα πιάσωσιν αὐτόν ('and the chief priests and Pharisees sent temple police to arrest him', v. 32b; cf. Strachan, 1941: 199-200)¹⁷⁷⁰ are raising perplexity about the identity of Jesus' interlocutors (see Table 67).¹⁷⁷¹ Stibbe (1993: 93) is of the opinion that, "The crowds in chap. 7 are a diverse and lively community. Their diversity is suggested by the division of opinion about Jesus within their ranks".¹⁷⁷² What Stibbe says here is important to consider in the process of analysing the content of the slot.

John 7:14-36	Overview
<p>v.14: Ἦδη δὲ τῆς ἑορτῆς μεσοῦσης ἀνέβη Ἰησοῦς εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν καὶ ἐδίδασκεν.</p> <p>v.15: ἐθαύμαζον οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι λέγοντες· πῶς οὗτος γράμματα οἶδεν μὴ μεμαθηκώς;</p> <p>v.16: ἀπεκρίθη οὖν αὐτοῖς [ὁ] Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν· ἡ ἐμὴ διδαχὴ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐμὴ ἀλλὰ τοῦ πέμψαντός με·</p> <p>v.17: ἐάν τις θέλῃ τὸ θέλημα αὐτοῦ ποιεῖν, γνώσεται περὶ τῆς διδαχῆς πότερον ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐστὶν ἢ ἐγὼ ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ λαλῶ.</p> <p>v.18: ὁ ἀφ' ἐαυτοῦ λαλῶν τὴν δόξαν τὴν ἰδίαν ζητεῖ· ὁ δὲ ζητῶν τὴν δόξαν τοῦ πέμψαντος αὐτὸν οὗτος ἀληθὴς ἐστὶν καὶ ἀδικία ἐν αὐτῷ οὐκ ἔστιν.</p> <p>v.19: Οὐ Μωϋσῆς δέδωκεν ὑμῖν τὸν νόμον; καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐξ ὑμῶν ποιεῖ τὸν νόμον. τί με ζητεῖτε ἀποκτεῖναι;</p> <p>v.20: ἀπεκρίθη ὁ ὄχλος· δαιμόνιον ἔχεις· τίς σε ζητεῖ ἀποκτεῖναι;</p> <p>v.21: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· ἔν ἔργον ἐποίησα καὶ πάντες θαυμάζετε.</p> <p>v.22: διὰ τοῦτο Μωϋσῆς δέδωκεν ὑμῖν τὴν περιτομὴν - οὐχ ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ Μωϋσέως ἐστὶν ἀλλ' ἐκ τῶν πατέρων - καὶ ἐν σαββάτῳ περιτέμνετε ἄνθρωπον.</p> <p>v.23: εἰ περιτομὴν λαμβάνει ἄνθρωπος ἐν σαββάτῳ ἵνα μὴ λυθῇ ὁ νόμος Μωϋσέως, ἔμοι χολᾶτε ὅτι ὅλον ἄνθρωπον ὑγιὲς ἐποίησα ἐν σαββάτῳ;</p> <p>v.24: μὴ κρίνετε κατ' ὄψιν, ἀλλὰ τὴν δικαίαν κρίσιν κρίνετε.</p> <p>v.25: Ἔλεγον οὖν τινες ἐκ τῶν Ἱεροσολυμιτῶν· οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν ὃν ζητοῦσιν ἀποκτεῖναι;</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 14-36 is comprised of nine utterance units (vv. 15b, 16b-19, 20b, 21b-24, 25b-27, 28b-29, 31b, 33b-34, 35b-36); out of the nine utterance units four are of Jesus (vv. 16b-19, 21b-24, 28b-29, 33b-34) and five are of his interlocutors (vv. 15b, 20b, 25b-27, 31b, 35b-36);</p> <p>(2) Jesus' interlocutors in the dialogue include the</p>

¹⁷⁶⁹ The usage "Now some of the people of Jerusalem" (v. 25b) introduces the entry of a new group of interlocutors. The people referred to by the term Ἱεροσολυμιται ('people of Jerusalem', Ἱεροσολυμιτῶν; elsewhere in the NT only in Mark 1:5) may represent a third group, along with "the Jews" (7:1, 11) and "the crowd" (7:20, 31; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 235; Brown, 1966: 310-18). The expressions of this third group (i.e., Οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν ὃν ζητοῦσιν ἀποκτεῖναι, v. 25, and οὐδὲν αὐτῷ λέγουσιν, v. 26) sternly talks about their separate identity. The dialogical and sentimental expressions like Ἔλεγον οὖν τινες ἐκ τῶν Ἱεροσολυμιτῶν ('Now some of the people of Jerusalem were saying', v. 25) and Ἐκ τοῦ ὄχλου δὲ πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτὸν καὶ ἔλεγον ('Yet many in the crowd believed in him and were saying', v. 31) are key to determine the nature of the talk.

¹⁷⁷⁰ About the temple police, Köstenberger (2004: 237-8) says that, "The primary responsibility of the temple guards, who were drawn from the Levites, was to maintain order in the temple precincts as a kind of temple police force". The Pharisees' hearing, crowd's muttering, chief priests' and Pharisees' sending of temple police, and the arrival of the temple police are coalesced together to introduce another entry into the stage.

¹⁷⁷¹ Painter (1993: 288) is of the view that, "The presentation of the roles of the crowd, the Jews and the Pharisees and chief-priests in John 7-8 is confusing. Just who the Jews are is not always clear. The names (crowd, Jews, Pharisees, chief-priests) appear to represent different groups but those within the groups overlap in some ways with those in the other groups".

¹⁷⁷² The role of the Jews, people of Jerusalem, believing and unbelieving crowd, temple police, and chief priests and Pharisees can be understood as diverse representations from the larger umbrella term crowds. Cf. Bennema, 2009: 38-46; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 108-13; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 9-20; Tenney, 1948: 132-4; Westcott, 1958: 118-23; Morris, 1995: 358-71.

<p>v.26: καὶ ἴδε παρρησίᾳ λαλεῖ καὶ οὐδὲν αὐτῷ λέγουσιν. μήποτε ἀληθῶς ἔγνωσαν οἱ ἄρχοντες ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ χριστός;</p> <p>v.27: ἀλλὰ τοῦτον οἶδαμεν πόθεν ἐστίν· ὁ δὲ χριστὸς ὅταν ἔρχηται οὐδεὶς γινώσκει πόθεν ἐστίν.</p> <p>v.28: ἔκραξεν οὖν ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ διδασκῶν ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ λέγων· καὶ οἶδατε καὶ οἶδατε πόθεν εἰμί· καὶ ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ οὐκ ἐλήλυθα, ἀλλ' ἐστὶν ἀληθινὸς ὁ πέμψας με, ὃν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἶδατε·</p> <p>v.29: ἐγὼ οἶδα αὐτόν, ὅτι παρ' αὐτοῦ εἰμι καὶ κεῖνός με ἀπέστειλεν.</p> <p>v.30: Ἐζήτουν οὖν αὐτὸν πιάσαι, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐπέβαλεν ἐπ' αὐτὸν τὴν χεῖρα, ὅτι οὐπω ἐληλύθει ἡ ὥρα αὐτοῦ.</p> <p>v.31: Ἐκ τοῦ ὄχλου δὲ πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν καὶ ἔλεγον· ὁ χριστὸς ὅταν ἔλθῃ μὴ πλείονα σημεῖα ποιήσει ὢν οὗτος ἐποίησεν;</p> <p>v.32: ἤκουσαν οἱ Φαρισαῖοι τοῦ ὄχλου γογγύζοντος περὶ αὐτοῦ ταῦτα, καὶ ἀπέστειλαν οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ οἱ Φαρισαῖοι ὑπηρέτας ἵνα πιάσωσιν αὐτόν.</p> <p>v.33: εἶπεν οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἔτι χρόνον μικρὸν μεθ' ὑμῶν εἰμι καὶ ὑπάγω πρὸς τὸν πέμψαντά με.</p> <p>v.34: ζητήσετέ με καὶ οὐχ εὑρήσετέ [με], καὶ ὅπου εἰμι ἐγὼ ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν.</p> <p>v.35: εἶπον οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι πρὸς ἑαυτούς· ποῦ οὗτος μέλλει πορεύεσθαι ὅτι ἡμεῖς οὐχ εὑρήσομεν αὐτόν; μὴ εἰς τὴν διασπορὰν τῶν Ἑλλήνων μέλλει πορεύεσθαι καὶ διδάσκειν τοὺς Ἕλληνας;</p> <p>v.36: τίς ἐστὶν ὁ λόγος οὗτος ὃν εἶπεν· ζητήσετέ με καὶ οὐχ εὑρήσετέ [με], καὶ ὅπου εἰμι ἐγὼ ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν;</p>	<p>Jews, the crowd people of Jerusalem those who believe him. In vv. 35 dialogue between Jesus and his interlocutors as a 'community dialogue';</p> <p>(3) The narrative of the episode at Jerusalem (vv. 31a, 32) and / or narrative (vv. 16a, 20a, 21a, 28a, 31a, 33a).</p>
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Table 67: The dialogue of 7:14-36 within the narratorial framework

As the third slot (vv. 14-36) develops, the verbal conflict between Jesus and his interlocutors becomes acute at some intervals (cf. v. 20).¹⁷⁷³ The appearance of the Sanhedrin and the police (v. 32) brings a judicial coloring for the slot (cf. Painter, 1993: 295). At the end of yet another 'community dialogue' is brought to the notice of the reader (vv. 35-36; see 67).¹⁷⁷⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 145) points out that, "The account of the second half of the week in Jerusalem—what Jesus said during it, and what reactions this provoked among his both people and leaders—forms a unity (extending to v. 36)".¹⁷⁷⁵ The following discussion helps us to know more details about the interactive dynamism within vv. 14-36.

In the dialogue sections, Jesus is the constant speaker and his interlocutors are represented by several characters at several intervals (cf. vv. 15a, 20a, 25a, 31a, 32b, 35a).¹⁷⁷⁶ On the basis of the reactions of his interlocutors, one can organize vv. 15-36 into a chain of dialogues interconnected with another in the following way: *first*, Jesus and the Jews (vv. 15-19); *second*, Jesus and the Jews (vv. 20-24); *third*, Jesus and the people of Jerusalem (vv. 25-30); *fourth*, the believing

¹⁷⁷³ Lincoln (2000: 15) sees seven major discourses (cf. 3:1-21; 4:1-26; 5:19-47; 6:22-59; 7:14-39; 8:12-59) in the BS alongside of the seven signs. He uses the term discourse referring to speech material.

¹⁷⁷⁴ See the expression εἶπον οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι πρὸς ἑαυτούς ('The Jews said to one another') at v. 35. Cf. 1991: 320; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 211; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 112-3; Lindars, 1972: 296; Hoskyns, 194; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 20; Blomberg, 2001: 136; MacGregor, 1928: 204; Westcott, 1958: 122.

¹⁷⁷⁵ He (1980: 2: 145) says further that, "Not only is it verbally differentiated from the last great day of the week (v. 37), but also bound together in itself by a unity of theme: the origin and goal of Jesus".

¹⁷⁷⁶ Von Wahlde (NTS: 44) states that, "Although at first glance the use of Jews in 7:15 seems to alternate with the use of the people in 7:20 and so be anonymous with it, this cannot be the case. Jesus speaks of the Jews of 7:15 as seeking to arrest him (7:19); however the *ochlos* in 7:20 does not have any knowledge of this and cannot be intended to refer to the same group. Therefore the Jews of 7:15 cannot be spoken of as the people". While Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 287; 1974: 91; Bennema, 2009: 38-46; Chilton, 1992: 398-405) states that 7:15 refers to the people, his comment on the passage (1980: 2: 184) treats them as authorities by distinguishing them from the *achlos* of 7:20.

crowd (v. 31); *fifth*, Jesus and the temple police (vv. 32-34); and *sixth*, Jews among themselves (vv. 35-36; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 92-4).¹⁷⁷⁷ It begins as a dialogue between Jesus and the Jews (vv. 15-19; cf. Von Wahlde, NTS: 44). Jews express their astonishment (ἐθαύμαζον) concerning the teaching of Jesus by raising a question: Πῶς οὗτος γράμματα¹⁷⁷⁸ οἶδεν μὴ μεμαθηκώς; (v. 15; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 13).¹⁷⁷⁹ Jesus' response to them in vv. 16-19 clarifies the following four aspects: *first*, his teaching (διδάχῃ)¹⁷⁸⁰ is of God the Father, one who sent him (v. 16);¹⁷⁸¹ *second*, only those who resolve to do the will of God understand the source of his teaching (v. 17; cf. Neyrey, 2009: 200); *third*, he is true because he seeks the glory of the Father (v. 18); and *fourth*, the Jews are not observers of the Mosaic law and that is evident through their looking for an opportunity to kill him (v. 19; cf. Robertson, 1932: 124; Keener, 2003: 712-3).¹⁷⁸² In this *question-and-answer dialogue*, Jesus evidences the following things: his mission as one who is sent by the Father, his source of teaching, his truthfulness, and the malicious attitude of his interlocutors. He proves his argument rhetorically and apologetically. As the crowd (ὁ ὄχλος) enters the scene the *second* level of the dialogue takes place (vv. 20-24; cf. Watson, 1992: 605-9; Von Wahlde, NTS: 44). The crowd firstly pose an accusation against Jesus (Δαίμόνιον ἔχεις; v. 20a) and then raise a question (τίς σε ζητεῖ ἀποκτείνειν; v. 20b). Their question is directly linked to the previous response of Jesus to the Jews (v. 19; cf. Painter, 1993: 293).¹⁷⁸³ Witherington (1995: 172; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 141) opines that, "At this point the dialogue becomes exceedingly vitriolic. Jesus is accused by the crowd of having a demon, and they indicate surprise at the charge that someone is trying to kill Jesus".¹⁷⁸⁴ In vv. 21-24, Jesus makes another four-fold response pointing out the following things: *first*, the crowd's astonishment at his work (v. 21b; cf. 5:1-18); *second*, Moses gave them circumcision¹⁷⁸⁵ and they circumcise on the Sabbath (v. 22; cf. Loader, 1997: 461, 467-

¹⁷⁷⁷ These characters can be understood as follows: *first*, crowds may be the general category or the common people; *second*, Jews are the officials or the influential figures of Judaism; *third*, the people of Jerusalem are local Jerusalemites who are having their own views (cf. vv. 25-27) different from the crowd (v. 20) and the Jews (v. 15); *fourth*, the categorisation between the 'believing' and the 'unbelieving' is a general outlook of the narrator; and also temple police, scribes and Pharisees.

¹⁷⁷⁸ The Nominative Plural Neuter Noun form of γράμμα, which means "that which is written or drawn"; "a letter", "character of the alphabet", Luke 23:38; "a writing", "book", John 5:47; "an acknowledgement of debt", "an account", "a bill", "note", Luke 16:6, 7; "an epistle", "letter", Acts 28:21. See the usage of γράμματα in Acts 25:21; 26:24.

¹⁷⁷⁹ The picturesque imperfect active of ἐθαύμαζον means "were wondering" (cf. Robertson, 1932: 122). Cf. Witherington, 1995: 171-2; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 261-2; Bruce, 1983: 175; Barrett, 1978: 317; Carson, 1991: 311-2; Hoskyns, 1947: 314.

¹⁷⁸⁰ Meaning "instruction", "the giving of instruction", "teaching", Mark 4:2; 12:38. "Instruction", "what is taught", "doctrine", Matthew 16:12; John 7:16, 17. "Mode of teaching and kind of doctrine taught", Matthew 7:28; Mark 1:27.

¹⁷⁸¹ Neyrey (2007: 140) says that, "He [i.e., Jesus] testifies first that indeed he has 'schooling' from a learned and powerful authority: 'My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me' (7:16)".

¹⁷⁸² What Maniparampil (2004: 267) says in the following lines is sensible: "His (Jesus') teaching is true because God is the Truth. His authority is not juridical or canonical, but personal and ontological in the sense that he is in permanent union with his father". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 318-9; Lindars, 1972: 288-9; Hoskyns, 1947: 314-5; Carson, 1991: 312-4; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 263; Pryor, 1992: 34-40; Culpepper, 1983: 92; Glasson, 1963: 20-26.

¹⁷⁸³ Robertson (1932: 124) says that, "They [i.e., the Jews] marvelled at Christ's 'ignorance' and boasted of their own knowledge of the law of Moses. And yet they violated that law by not practising it". Cf. Carson, 1991: 314; Lindars, 1972: 290; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 109; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 206-7; Bruce, 1983: 176; Hoskyns, 1947: 315; Morris, 1995: 361; Blomberg, 2001: 134; Lightfoot, 1956/1957: 177-9.

¹⁷⁸⁴ Carson (1991: 314) is of the opinion that, "Their counter-accusation, *You are demon-possessed* (lit. 'You have a demon'), is probably their explanation for what they judge to be insane behavior, a connection that others later make (cf. 10:20, 'He is demon-possessed and raving mad')".

¹⁷⁸⁵ It is the removal of the foreskin (prepuce) of the male penis. In the ancient Near East, the practice varied. Some societies, including the Hebrews, completely amputated the prepuce, while other cultures [e.g., the Egyptians] made

8);¹⁷⁸⁶ *third*, while on the one hand, they believe that by performing circumcision on the the law of Moses may not be broken, on the other, they think that by healing a man on the Jesus is breaking the Sabbath (v. 23; cf. Moo, 1984: 3-49; Neyrey, 2009: 200); and *for* interlocutors are judging by appearance, not with right judgment (v. 24; cf. Keener, 2003: Lincoln, 2000: 33).¹⁷⁸⁷ In the second part of the dialogue, Jesus answers the surprise que the crowd in a succinct fashion.

The interaction of the people of Jerusalem with Jesus and his response to them in vv introduce the *third* level of the slot (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 93; Keener, 2003: 718-9).¹ Jerusalemites speak as if they are strangers to the scene and distinct from the Jews and th (vv. 25-27; cf. vv. 15-24).¹⁷⁸⁹ Their talk arrays four important things: *first*, their surprised in v. 25b makes the reader aware that Jesus' utterance in v. 19 is true whereas the utteranc crowd in v. 20 is false;¹⁷⁹⁰ *second*, the Jews are conspiring in secret against Jesus, but afraid to speak openly (v. 26a); *third*, their second question marks their perplexity al attitude of the Jewish authorities toward Jesus and his role as the Messiah (v. 26b; cf. 2003: 718); and *fourth*, their final statement points out their familiarity with Jesus' background contrary to their expectation about the coming Messiah (v. 27; cf. Bultman 296; Quast, 1991/1996: 64).¹⁷⁹¹ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 145) says that, "As Jerusalem r they are aware of the attitude and intentions of the leading group in the capital. Their question shows that it is the members of the Sanhedrin (οἱ ἄρχοντες) that they have in Jesus' reponse to the Jerusalemites in vv. 28-29 clears up three important things: j interlocutors' 'into know' about him is false (v. 28a); *second*, the reality of their 'not int concerning his true identity (v. 28b); and *third*, his 'into know' about the identity of one v him (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 16; Cory, 1997: 100).¹⁷⁹² Through Jesus' response in vv. 28 narrator implicitly indicates that Jesus is 'into know' both of his interlocutors and of his F:

dorsal incisions upon the foreskin. In ancient Israel and in Judaism, circumcision was routinely performed up of eight days (Gen 17:12; Lev 12:3; Luke 1:59; 2:21; Phil 3:5), though circumstances might permit performance upon adolescents (cf. Gen 17:25) or even upon grooms (cf. Gen 34:14-24). For more informati Sasson, 1985/2009: 185-6.

¹⁷⁸⁶ Neyrey (2007: 141; cf. Carson, 1982: 66-7, 82) says that, "His [i.e., Jesus'] defense uses the standard *qal wayyomer* or a fortiori reasoning. If Jesus is guilty for healing on the Sabbath, then so are they for circu the Sabbath".

¹⁷⁸⁷ Various scholars have suggested that at least vv. 22-25 belong with the Sabbath discussion in Jc Witherington, 1995: 171-2; Carson, 1991: 314-6; Barrett, 1978: 319-21; Turner and Mantey, ny: 179-81. In "Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment], Jesus voices the correct ideological point of v gospel (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 178, 250; Motyer, 1997: 130-2; Quast, 1991/1996: 62-3).

¹⁷⁸⁸ As Witherington (1995: 172) says that, "John 7:25 opens a new subsection of this ongoing dialogue" details about the diverse Jewish communities in John, refer to Von Wahlde, NTS: 33-60; Bratcher, 19 Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 286-7; Fortna, 1974: 58-94; Bennema, 2009: 38-46; Chilton, 1992: 398-405.

¹⁷⁸⁹ While Jesus says that they are looking for an opportunity to kill him, the crowd surprisingly asks th trying to kill you?" But the Jerusalemites say that "Is not this the man whom they are trying to kill?"

¹⁷⁹⁰ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 146) states that, "The surprise of these people that Jesus is able to speak 'op the more intelligible if v. 25 follows straight after v. 14, since the subject of v. 13 was the fear in the temple'

¹⁷⁹¹ Neyrey (2007: 143; cf. Thompson, 1988: 19-25; Sproston, 1985: 80) says that, "In the Greco-Rom person's origins greatly determined his worth and honor. But the demand that the Messiah's origins be i strange indeed". Cf. Witherington, 1995: 172; Lindars, 1972: 292-4; Turner and Mantey, ny: 179-83.

¹⁷⁹² The expression ἐγὼ οἶδα αὐτόν (v. 29) is used in contrast to the ignorance of the people (see Rober 127). Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 268-9; Barrett, 1978: 322-3; Bennema, 2005: 91; Lindars, 19 Maniparampil, 2004: 268; Carson, 1991: 318.

Thompson, 1988: 13-25). The narrator of the slot closes the third part by telling about the Jewish attempt of arrest and their frustration and concerning the expected hour of Jesus (ἡ ὥρα αὐτοῦ, v. 30; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 188; Neyrey, 2009: 202-4).¹⁷⁹³ The question from among the ‘believing-crowd’ in v. 31 opens up the possibility of a *fourth* level of interaction.¹⁷⁹⁴ The narrator indirectly relates that there was a division among the crowd between those who believe in Jesus and those who do not believe (v. 31).¹⁷⁹⁵ The minority believers’ astonishment toward the majority group is implicitly represented in v. 31b, i.e., ‘Ὁ Χριστὸς ὅταν ἔλθῃ μὴ πλείονα σημεία ποιήσῃ ὥν οὗτος ἐποίησεν;’.¹⁷⁹⁶ A *fifth* level (vv. 32-34) is set as the temple police come on the stage to arrest Jesus and he interacts with them. He states a tri-tier utterance here: *first*, about his ‘now’ and ‘later’ (v. 33); *second*, about their ‘search’ for him and their ‘will not find’ (v. 34a; cf. Cory, 1997: 100-1); and *third*, about his ‘being’ as ‘I am’ and their ‘cannot’ (v. 34b; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 16-7; Neyrey, 2009: 205).¹⁷⁹⁷ A dialogue is implicit in the fifth level as the narrator informs the reader about the purpose of the arrival of the temple police and about the timely response of Jesus (cf. vv. 32-34). The *final* level is a community dialogue among the Jews as a result of the previous five levels of dialogues.¹⁷⁹⁸ Jesus’ statements in his final utterance (v. 34, especially Ζητήσετέ με καὶ οὐχ εὐρήσετέ [με], καὶ ὅπου εἰμι ἐγὼ ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἔλθειν) make them think that he is intending to go to the dispersion (τὴν διασποράν)¹⁷⁹⁹ among the Greeks and teach the Greeks (vv. 35-36; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 306-9; Strachan, 1941: 200).¹⁸⁰⁰ All these levels together manifest the content of the dialogue as one between the conflicting worldviews of Jesus the Messiah (one who is sent by the Father) and his Jewish counterparts (the expectants of the coming Messiah). Thus the dialogue fulfills the statement of the narrator, “He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him” (cf. 1:11; NRSV; cf. Carter, 1990: 39).

¹⁷⁹³ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 269; cf. Asiedu-Pepurah, 2001: 45) points out that, “For despite all their scheming they are kept from striking out at him . . . But the real reason they could not was that the divinely appointed ‘hour’, the hour of Jesus’ suffering and death, had not yet come”.

¹⁷⁹⁴ For more details about the diverse Jewish communities in John, refer to Von Wahlde, NTS: 33-60; Bratcher, 1975: 401-9; Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 286-7; Fortna, 1974: 58-94; Bennema, 2009: 38-46.

¹⁷⁹⁵ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 148) says that, “In contrast with the subservience towards the leaders of these inhabitants of Jerusalem (ἐκ), there are many among the people, probably mostly among the pilgrims to the feast (cf. v. 12), who are coming to believe in Jesus”. Haenchen (1984: 2: 16) observes that, “Verses 31-36 form the second subsection, a kind of interlude or intermezzo”.

¹⁷⁹⁶ Robertson (1932: 128) says that, “Proleptic position of ‘Ὁ Χριστὸς again as in 27, but ἔλθῃ with ὅταν rather than ἐρχεται, calling more attention to the consummation (whenever he does come)”. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 323; Maniparampil, 2004: 269; Lindars, 1972: 294; Witherington, 1995: 172; Bennema, 2005: 91; Bruce, 1983: 179.

¹⁷⁹⁷ Keener (2003: 720) is of the opinion that, “Jesus’ warning that they would ‘seek’ him too late to find him (7:34) may echo the biblical prophets; the warning was permanent for his enemies (8:21) but his followers would experience the separation only temporarily (13:33, 36)”. Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 149-50; Witherington, 1995: 172-3; Bruce, 1983: 180; Carson, 1991: 320-1; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 269-71; Bennema, 2005: 91-2.

¹⁷⁹⁸ For more details about the identity of the ‘Jews’ here, refer to Von Wahlde, NTS: 44-5; Bratcher, 1975: 406; Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 286-7; Fortna, 1974: 90; Bennema, 2009: 38-46.

¹⁷⁹⁹ “Dispersion” or “Diaspora” means literally “scattering”. This term originally referred to the Jews living among the Gentiles (geographical-ethnic sense). Later it was applied to Christians living among the Gentiles (geographical-ethnic sense, Acts 8:1, 4; 11:9). See McKnight, 1992: 259-65; Edwards, 1992: 312-7; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 271; Maniparampil, 2004: 269; Witherington, 1995: 173.

¹⁸⁰⁰ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 150; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 271; Neyrey, 2009: 205; Witherington, 1995: 173) says that, “‘Greek’ does not mean Hellenistic Jews but native Greeks, those among whom the Jews of the Diaspora live. The expression ἡ διασπορά had already become a technical term, followed by a genitive to indicate the region concerned. Thus the first ‘Greeks’ gives the geographical area, but the continuation ‘and teach the Greeks’ clearly shows what kind of activity those discussing Jesus’ words have in mind: missionary work among the pagans”. See the usage of transitional conjunctions (i.e., οὖν) in vv. 25, 28, 33, and 35 (cf. Wallace, 1996: 674).

The form of the third dialogue can be analysed as follows. Whereas the process-time of the slot is at the middle of the festival ("Ἡδὲ τῆς ἑορτῆς μεσοῦσης, v. 14), the following happens on the last day of the festival ("Ἐν δὲ τῇ ἑσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ μεγάλῃ τῆς ἑορτῆς, v. 22).¹⁸⁰¹ In that way, the narrator maintains a succession of events in a rhythmic fashion (cf. Chatman, 1978: 17-9; Tolmie, 1999: 97-9). The narrator links chap. 7 with chaps. 5 and 6.¹⁸⁰² Stibbe (1993: 91) says that, "In 5:19-47, Jesus delivers a long speech in the style of a legal defence. In chap. 6, Jesus delivers an equally long speech in the didactic style of the rabbinic homily. In the discourse material of 7:14-44 there are important didactic elements. However, the forensic overtones of this material mark it out as another trial scene".¹⁸⁰³ As the episode works as a sequence to the preceding episodes, it works within the larger outline of the Feast of Tabernacles events (7:1-10:21). Thus the *analeptic* and *proleptic* development of the slot within the larger Johannine framework is noticeable (Chatman, 1978: 64; Genette, 1980: 48-79; see Table 68).

Utterance	Form	Content
Jews	Question out of astonishment	How does Jesus have such learning when he has never been taught?
Jesus	Agency talk, pedagogical talk, glory-focused talk, rhetorical question, question, contrast, revelation of disobedience and violence, intertextuality, controversial statement	Jesus' teaching is not his own, but of the Father who sent him; Those who resolve to do the will of God will know the source of Jesus' knowledge; Jesus is true because he seeks glory of the Father and there is nothing false about him; Though Moses gave the Jews the law, they do not keep the law; Now, they are looking for an opportunity to kill Jesus
Crowd	Accusation, question	By telling that the Jews are trying to kill him, Jesus proves that he has a demon
Jesus	Statement about work, traditional belief, descriptive talk, irony, question, contrast, warning, intertextuality, controversial statement	At Jesus' work all are astonished; Moses gave the Jews circumcision and they circumcise a man on the Sabbath; Circumcision is, of course, not from Moses, but from the patriarchs; If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath the law of Moses is not broken, but they are angry with Jesus because he healed a man on Sabbath; Do not judge by appearance, but judge with right judgment

¹⁸⁰¹ Talbert (1992: 145; cf. Lindars, 1972: 286) analyses the rest of chaps. 7 and 8 as follows: "The discourse that follows held together by an inclusion (7:14: 'into the Temple'; 8:59: 'out of the Temple'). It breaks into two contained sections of dialogue, 7:14-52 and 8:12-59, focused on the question of whether or not Jesus is the Messiah. The first, 7:14-52, falls into two subunits that loosely correspond to one another: vv. 14-36 and vv. 37-52".

¹⁸⁰² Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 262; Maniparampil, 2004: 268-9; Glasson, 1963; Carson, 1991: 312-6.

¹⁸⁰³ Stibbe (1993: 90) discerns two dialogues in the section (7:13-36): *first*, Jesus' first dialogue, halfway through the Feast (vv. 14-24); and *second*, Jesus' second dialogue (vv. 25-36). But a careful examination of vv. 13-36 shows that the flow of thought from vv. 14-24 to vv. 25-36 is smooth. This makes it apparent that vv. 14-36 are a single unit. Cf. 6:26-58; notice the ἐδίδασκεν in 7:14, 28, 35, and διδάχη in 7:16, 17. Blomberg (2001: 133) says "the discourse" of John 7 is a compilation of five segments of Jesus' words, none more than four verses in length. The first is slightly shorter than the previous one. Verses 16-19 repeat the theme of 5:19-30 about Jesus doing nothing but the Father's will. In verses 21-24 Jesus defends his healing on the Sabbath. In verses 28-29 he summarises the fact that his listeners do not know him because they do not know the Father. Verses 33-34 foreshadow the emphatic farewell discourse (chaps. 14-16) that he will be with his listeners only a little while longer".

People of Jerusalem	Surprise questions, exclamation, knowing-and-unknowing contrast, misunderstanding	Jesus is speaking openly though the Jews are attempting to kill him; Can it be that the authorities really know that Jesus is the Messiah? The Jews know where Jesus is from, but when the Messiah comes, no one will know where he is from
Jesus	Agency-talk, knowing-and-unknowing contrast, self-revelation	The Jews know Jesus, and they know where Jesus is from. Jesus has not come on his own. But the one who sent him is true, and they do not know him. Jesus knows him, because he is from him, and he sent him
Crowd	Rhetorical question, Messianic-talk, misunderstanding	When the Messiah comes, will he do more signs than Jesus has done?
Jesus	Self-information, agency-talk, prophesy, ascension-talk, disclosure,	Jesus will be with the Jews a little while longer and then he is going to the Father who sent him. Jews will search for him, but they will not find him; and Jews cannot go where Jesus is going
Jews to one another	Questions, community talk, misunderstanding	Where does Jesus intend to go that the Jews will not find him? Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? What does he mean by saying 'You will search for me and you will not find me' and 'Where I am, you cannot come?'

Table 68: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 7:14-36

Mlakuzhyil (1987: 203) opines that, "Jesus' self-manifestation 'in the middle of the feast' and the mixed reactions it provokes (7:14-36) are described in three connected units: first, the divine origin of Jesus' teaching and work (7:14-24); second, division among the people about his Messianic mission (7:25-31); and third, officers sent by the chief priests and Pharisees to arrest him (7: 32-36)".¹⁸⁰⁴ Similarly, Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 145) also says that, "His (Jesus') 'teaching' in the temple (vv. 14, 28; cf. 8:20) simply provides a framework for his self-revelation; it leads to objections and interpretations which are the occasion for still further, starker self-utterance". Tenney (1948: 132), on the other hand, opines that, "His (Jesus') teaching took the form of a paradox, asserting both authority (v. 14) and subordination (v. 16), offering a pragmatic test (vv. 17-19), and issuing in an argument (vv. 21-24)". While Mlakuzhyil and Schnackenburg emphasise Jesus' self-revelatory aspects, Tenney takes up the paradoxical nature of the utterance units. But all of them highlight Jesus' pedagogical interests through the dialogue. The interconnectedness of narratives, self-revelatory but paradoxical nature of the dialogues, aesthetical and rhythmical flow of thought, recombination of events, and mutation of style are well maintained within the slot (cf. Windisch, 1993: 25-64; Chatman, 1978: 43-95).

¹⁸⁰⁴ Mlakuzhyil's analysis is much closer to what we have already seen in our structuring of the slot. But we have seen the way six sub-slots are working within the framework of vv. 14-36. The central unit (i.e., vv. 25-31, as Mlakuzhyil says) is demarcated by a double inclusion (*houtos*: 7:25, 26, 31; *ho Christos*: 7:26, 31). The entire slot is arranged between two community dialogues (cf. 11-13, 35-36). Thus forms another *inclusion*. See Barrett, 1978: 321-4; Hoskyns, 1947: 316-9; Stibbe, 1993: 90.

The dialogic-slot develops by the help of several talk forms and literary devices used by characters and the narrator (cf. Windisch, 1993: 47; Tolmie, 1999: 39-59).¹⁸⁰⁵ The following are the talk forms and literary devices identified in Jesus' speech:¹⁸⁰⁶ *agency talks* (vv. 16-18, 33-34),¹⁸⁰⁷ *glory-focused talk* (v. 18),¹⁸⁰⁸ *descriptive talk* (v. 22a), *ascension talk* (vv. 23-24), *judgment-talk* (v. 24; cf. Motyer, 1997: 130-2),¹⁸⁰⁹ *controversial statements* (vv. 19, 21-22), *statement* (v. 21), *question/rhetorical question* (vv. 19, 23), *contrast/paradox/antithesis* (vv. 23, 28-29; cf. Cory, 1997: 100-1),¹⁸¹⁰ *revelation of disobedience and violence* (v. 19; cf. Duke, 1986: 1-2), *intertextuality* (vv. 19, 22-23),¹⁸¹¹ *traditional belief* (v. 22), *irony* (v. 25-31; cf. Thompson, 1988: 19-25; O'Day, 1986: 1-2),¹⁸¹² *warning* (v. 24), *self-revelation* (vv. 28-29; cf. Thompson, 1988: 19-25; O'Day, 1986: 1-2),¹⁸¹³ *mashal/riddle* (v. 34),¹⁸¹⁴ *overtones*,¹⁸¹⁵ *prophetic utterance* (vv. 33-34)¹⁸¹⁶ and *enigmatic pronouncement* (vv. 33-34). Jesus' interlocutors use talk forms/literary devices as follows: *questions* of different sorts (vv. 20, 25, 26b, 31, 35-36),¹⁸¹⁸ *accusation* (v. 20a; cf. Smith, 1999: 170),¹⁸¹⁹ *exclamation* (v. 20a; cf. Smith, 1999: 170).

¹⁸⁰⁵ O'Day (1987: 12) says that, "... we readily recognise that the NT narratives, particularly the gospels, are composed of different literary forms and types of literary expression—miracle story, parable, pronouncement, discourse, dialogue, proverbs, and others". While O'Day only identifies the major forms within the framework, one also has to look at the minor literary expressions within it.

¹⁸⁰⁶ Devices like *antithetical parallelism* (vv. 18, 24), *synonymous parallelism* (v. 34) and *flashback* (vv. 23-24) are identified at the intervals.

¹⁸⁰⁷ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 262) says that, "In all these dialogues, to be sure, the one great issue is that Jesus speaks by the Father. But each time the perspective from which this issue comes up is different".

¹⁸⁰⁸ Smith (1999: 170) says that, "God speaks through Jesus, so in contrast to others Jesus seeks not his own glory, and is therefore entirely true (v. 18)". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 263; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 11-2.

¹⁸⁰⁹ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 266) states that, "He [Jesus] ... speaks not only to those who as judges or rulers are called to judge but to all who, in their conversations, discussions, and criticisms, set themselves up as judges over him" (cf. v. 24).

¹⁸¹⁰ Especially of *knowing-and-unknowing contrast* and *ὑπερ-ἐγὼ* antithesis. Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 14-15; 1991: 320-1; Lindars, 1972: 293-4; Bruce, 1983: 176-7.

¹⁸¹¹ For more descriptions about the relationships and differences between Jesus and the authority of the Father, refer to Moo, 1984: 3-49. Cf. Barrett, 1978: 318-22; Glasson, 1963; Bennema, 2005: 89-92.

¹⁸¹² Witherington (1995: 172; cf. Powell, 1990: 27-31; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 111; Macrae, 1993: 103-13) says that, "The dialogue is thick with irony at this point, because the real origins of the Son as a preexistent One who came forth from heaven were unknown to the crowds and authorities. Yet, adding irony to irony, Jesus says they know where he is from: he is God's apostle, God's sent one, but they just don't want to accept it".

¹⁸¹³ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 203) considers the entire section (i.e., vv. 14-36) as Jesus' self-revelation "in the narrative" and the mixed reactions it provokes. Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 146; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 19-20.

¹⁸¹⁴ Stibbe (1994: 23) observes that, "When confronted by the divided crowds in Jerusalem, Jesus utters a *verdict* saying ... The crowd, however, interprets the riddle incorrectly—at a literal level" (7:34; cf. 8:21//7:35).

¹⁸¹⁵ Neyrey (2009: 198; cf. Loader, 1997: 461, 467-8) observes that, "... the narrator intends us to view the forensic process under way, which includes *arrest* (7:32, 44, 45), *charges* (7:21-23 and vv. 12, 47), *testimony* for the defense (7:15-24, 51) or for the prosecution (vv. 25-27), all of which should issue in a *verdict* and (see 8:59; 11:49-53)".

¹⁸¹⁶ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 150) considers it an 'unconscious prophesy'. Cf. Bennema, 2005: 92; West, 1981: 2; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 210-1. For details about Jesus' role as a prophet, refer Reinhardt, 1989: 3-4.

¹⁸¹⁷ For more details about the use of 'enigmatic language' in John, refer to Hamid-Khani, 2000: 33-61. See Ridderbos (1987/1997: 271; Witherington, 1995: 173; Lindars, 1972: 295-6; Morris, 1995: 370. Neyrey (2009: 205; 1968: 45-7, 53-67) observes a 'statement-misunderstanding-clarification' formula in vv. 33-34.

¹⁸¹⁸ Forms like 'ordinary', 'rhetorical', and 'surprise'/'astonishment' questions. Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 271; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 146; Lindars, 1972: 286.

¹⁸¹⁹ Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 109; Carson, 1991: 314; Barrett, 1978: 319.

Messianic-talk (vv. 26b-27, 31b; cf. Thompson, 1988: 19-25; Lincoln, 1994: 6-7),¹⁸²⁰ *knowing-and-unknowing contrast* (vv. 26-27; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 145),¹⁸²¹ *misunderstanding* (vv. 35-36; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 157; Quast, 1991/1996: 64)¹⁸²² and *community talk* (vv. 35-36; see Table 68).¹⁸²³ The *challenge and riposte method* is one of the striking features of the dialogue in vv. 14-36 (cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 146-53). The internal nature of dialogues are determined by narratorial expressions like γογγυσμός ('complaining', v. 12), ἐδίδασκεν/διδάσκων ('teaching', vv. 14, 28, 35),¹⁸²⁴ ἐθαύμαζον ('astonishment', v. 15), λέγοντες/έλεγον and εἶπεν/εἶπον ('saying', vv. 11, 12, 15, 25, 31, 33, 35), ἔκραξεν ('cried out', v. 28),¹⁸²⁵ γογγύζοντος ('muttering', v. 32) and ἀπεκρίθη ('answered', vv. 16, 20, 21; cf. Painter, 1993: 295; see Table 68). All the above mentioned utterance forms and quoting formulas work dynamically and coherently within the framework of the slot (cf. Botha, 1991: 71-87; Brooks, 1984: 5). And all these components add flavor to the dramatic portrayal of the slot (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-191; Genette, 1980: 172-73).

While level #1, 2 and 3 develop in a *question-and-answer format*,¹⁸²⁶ level # 4 exists in the form of an *implicit dialogue*. The implied nature of the forth level of dialogue becomes explicit through its narratorial format: *first*, Jesus' talk (vv. 28b-29); *second*, attempt to arrest and its subsequent frustration (v. 30); *third*, crowd's belief in Jesus (v. 31a); and *fourth*, the subsequent question (v. 31b).¹⁸²⁷ While level # 5 develops as yet another *implied dialogue* where the readers are informed that Jesus is responding to the temple police (vv. 32-34), in level # 6 a community dialogue is in

¹⁸²⁰ Quast (1991/1996: 64; cf. Strachan, 1941: 199-200) says that, "Jesus actually meets all the messianic requirements: his ultimate place of origin remains hidden; he has descended from heaven and been revealed by the prophet like Elijah, John the Baptist; finally, his natural birthplace was Bethlehem. Jesus truly is the Messiah, as those with the Spirit will discern". Cf. Lightfoot, 1956/1957: 178-81; Westcott, 1958: 118-22; Painter, 1993: 295-8.

¹⁸²¹ Cf. Barrett, 1978: 322-3; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 147; Westcott, 1958: 120-1.

¹⁸²² Jesus' statements in vv. 33-34, like "I shall be with you a little longer and then I go to him who sent me", "You will seek me and you will not find me", and "Where I am you cannot come", led the people into misunderstanding. See Blomberg, 2001: 136; Morris, 1995: 370-1; Westcott, 1958: 122; Lightfoot, 1956/1957: 181.

¹⁸²³ Broadhead (1996: 21) is of the view that the stories of the gospels operate within a community of faith which worships, proclaims, debates, reflects, and writes. In our analysis of Johannine dialogues, we can notice the struggles of the faith community within the extended Jewish community context.

¹⁸²⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 145; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 261; Lindars, 1972: 286) is of the opinion that, "Since 'teaching' is itself a significant theme in this section (v. 35) there is no need to introduce the displaced passage 15-24 for the sake of the διδάχην in vv. 16-17; the whole section is covered by the idea of 'teaching'".

¹⁸²⁵ Smith (1999: 172-73) states that, "At least to the crowd, Jesus' response (v. 28) is quite mysterious. The NRSV takes Jesus' initial sentence as a statement, although it could be taken as a question, in which case Jesus would be explicitly challenging their knowledge of him". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 322; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 16.

¹⁸²⁶ Here the narrator employs again the *question-and-answer method*. The nature of the questions is as follows: *first*, in the first question in v. 15, Jews were raising the matter of Jesus' learning without having studied; *second*, in v. 20, the crowd is raising a question back to Jesus over against his questions in v. 19. The question is preceded by their accusation levelled against Jesus, "You have a demon!"; *third*, in vv. 25-27, the response of the Jerusalemites is expressed by means of questions, revealing their confused mental status, and also expressing their unbelief in Jesus; *fourth*, From vv. 30-32, the time factor again comes into play. The crowd repeatedly put their faith in Jesus, whereas the Pharisees and chief priests understand the common people's trend and send temple guards to arrest him. The question from among the crowd is expressed in order to show their staunch faith in Jesus; and *fifth*, the last question in v. 35 arises out of their misunderstanding of Jesus' use of *double-meaning* (vv. 33-34).

¹⁸²⁷ All these elements within the narrative are instrumental in deciding the dialogical nature of the fourth level of dialogue. Though the dialogue is implicit, the narratorial sequence of events makes it an explicit one.

view (vv. 35-36). While Jesus remains as an evergreen character all through the s interlocutors represent different kinds of people (cf. Painter, 1993: 288-95).¹⁸²⁸ Thus the development of the slot is cohesive and developmental (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53; Chatman 62-3; see Diagram 41).

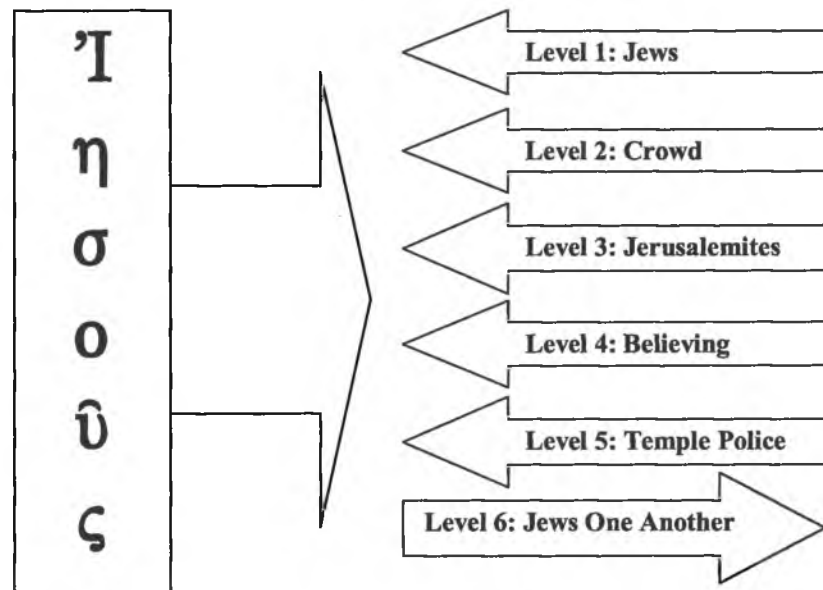


Diagram 41: The charactorial development of the slot

The use of *repetition* in v. 36 (cf. v. 34) reveals the perplexity of Jesus' interlocutors, and dialogue of the third slot ends up as an open-ended one. A conflict is well-developed; when the group accepts Jesus as the Messiah the majority vehemently deny his messiahship (cf. 1990: 42-4).¹⁸²⁹ While Jesus' utterance units are getting shorter from longer (cf. vv. 16-17, 28-29, and 33-34), his interlocutors' utterance units are showing signs of increase (cf. vv. 25-27, 31, 35-36).¹⁸³⁰ While Jesus' statements express self-revelatory aspects, his interlocutors' sayings reveal their mixed feelings concerning him (cf. Smith, 1999: 169-74).¹⁸³¹ The dialogue

¹⁸²⁸ In most of the occasions, sub-slots develop by taking concepts and issues from the previous one(s). The second sub-slot (vv. 20-24; also the third sub-slot, see v. 25) develops by taking themes like "killing of Moses and Law" from the first sub-slot (vv. 15-19), the fourth sub-slot (v. 31) develops by taking "questions" from the third sub-slot (cf. vv. 25-29). The fifth and sixth sub-slots are discussing about the "going away of Jesus".

¹⁸²⁹ Smith (1999: 173-4) is of the view that, "Jesus utters a riddlesome saying about his death and departure similar to one he will repeat to his disciples (13:33), who will also fail to comprehend him, as the Jews do (v. 36). Nevertheless, their speculation about Jesus' going to teach the Greeks (v. 35) is profoundly true. After the teaching about Jesus will disseminated to the Greeks, that is, to the Gentile world. Hence when the Passover seek Jesus (12:20-21), he knows that the time of his glorification, or death, has come (12:32-33). Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 145-50; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 262-72; Bruce, 1983: 174-80.

¹⁸³⁰ While Jesus' first two utterances (vv. 16-19; 21-24) are framed within four verses each, his last two utterances (vv. 28-29; 33-34) are framed within two verses each. While his interlocutors' three utterances (vv. 15, 20, 31b) are in single verses, their utterances in vv. 25-27 and 35-36 are framed in three and two verses respectively.

¹⁸³¹ It is one of the techniques of John to leave space for the readers to find the answer for many of his discourses.

tenets of *Messianic focus, glory/hour centeredness, belief/unbelief distinction*,¹⁸³² and *Moses-Jesus ideological conflict* (cf. Painter, 1989: 36).¹⁸³³ The major tenets of the slot are *question-and-answer sequence, challenge-and-riposte style, paradox, forensic overtones, controversial nature, self-revelatory format*¹⁸³⁴ and *pedagogical development*. The overarching tenet of the dialogue can be considered as a *religious-theological controversy in challenge-and-riposte format*.¹⁸³⁵

The function of the dialogue in vv. 14-36 can be viewed as follows (cf. Chandler, 2002/2007: 189). The dialogue in chaps. 7-8 is not miracle-centered as in the case of the episodes in 5:1-47 and 6:1-71; but it tends to be connected to one of the previous miracles (v. 21; cf. chap. 5).¹⁸³⁶ Wead (1970: 1) says about its backward movement in the following words: "The present event cannot be properly understood without knowledge of what was past and the past events are not complete without knowledge of the effects which they caused".¹⁸³⁷ The development of the episode happens through conflict and characterisation and that further result in thematic development.¹⁸³⁸ The dialogue includes the usual Johannine thematic/literary trends like Messianic utterances (cf. vv. 26, 31), pedagogical/didactic terminologies (vv. 14, 15, 16, 17, 28),¹⁸³⁹ continuous astonishments, perplexities, misunderstandings, and unknowing (vv. 15, 21, 35-36)¹⁸⁴⁰ of the interlocutors, Jesus' representation as one who is sent (vv. 16, 18, 28, 29, 33), Moses/Sabbath/law terminologies (vv.

¹⁸³² Daise (2007: 18) considers the section vv. 11-44 as a pericope that "provokes controversy and elicits belief". Cf. Lindars, 1972: 294; Barrett, 1978: 323; Hoskyns, 1947: 319; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 111-2.

¹⁸³³ For more details about "Jesus and the Authority of the Mosaic Law", refer to Moo, 1984: 3-49. Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 262-6; Glasson, 1963; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 148-9. According to Smith (1999: 172), "... Jesus is portrayed as turning the Jews' basis of authority against them. What he has done is perfectly appropriate under Mosaic law".

¹⁸³⁴ See Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 149-50; Westcott, 1958: 118-22; Tenney, 1948: 132-4; Morris, 1995: 358-71.

¹⁸³⁵ It can also be called a *religious-theological controversy in question-and-answer format*. But, the *challenge-and-riposte format* is more frequent and conspicuous in the slot than the *question-and-answer format*. The ideological conflict on religious aspects makes the dialogue a *religious-theological controversy*.

¹⁸³⁶ Smalley (1978: 197) opines that, "... John often treats his speech material dramatically in association with his signs material, perhaps by expanding an episode which he discovered in his source. But there is more that can be learned about the way the fourth evangelist uses the discourses in his gospel".

¹⁸³⁷ Wead (1970: 1) says that, "Often a movie or novel will begin with an event and then move back into the past to show earlier events which preceded the opening event. This movement is necessary because the relationship between the event and its past is such that the one effects the other's meaning". Stibbe (1993: 91) states that, "Much of the material in chap. 7 is constructed to suggest the progress of a trial which has begun in chap. 5. The fact that a death sentence hangs precariously over Jesus' head shows that the outcome of the argument here is a matter of life and death".

¹⁸³⁸ Jesus the protagonist is pictured as one who teaches at the temple, seeks the glory of the Father, dialogues with his interlocutors, about whom Jews had considerable complaints, who is learned and who has never been taught, whom Jews are trying to kill, about whom the community is divided, who is from the Father (as one who is sent) and whom the people believe/disbelieve. Cf. Witherington, 1995: 172-3; Lindars, 1972: 286-96; Carson, 1991: 310-20; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 262-6; Barrett, 1978: 317-25; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 145-50; Bruce, 1983: 174.

¹⁸³⁹ Cf. Jesus' activity of teaching (6: 59; 7:14-17, 28; 8:2, 20; 18:19-20); he is addressed as teacher (1:38; 3:2; 8:4; 11:28; 13:13-14; 20:16); and his revelatory teaching from God (3:34; 7:16-17). Bennema (1995: 119) says that, "Jesus' main activity is teaching, and he is addressed as Teacher. Jesus' revelatory teaching comes from God, and is essentially the communication of what he sees the Father doing and of what he hears the Father speaking".

¹⁸⁴⁰ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 150) says that, "The Jews do not understand Jesus' word of revelation, misinterpreting it in a superficial, literal sense. As a Johannine stylistic device, misunderstanding (cf. 4:33) can have various functions". In v. 36, Schnackenburg observes the *bewilderment or puzzlement* of Jesus' unbelieving hearers.

19, 22, 23; cf. Moo, 1984: 3-49; Loader, 1997: 461, 467-8),¹⁸⁴¹ killing/angry/arrest attempt (vv. 19, 20, 23, 25, 30, 32; cf. Orchard, 1998: 32-47; Painter, 1989: 36),¹⁸⁴² awaiting the hour (v. 30),¹⁸⁴³ glory-focus (v. 18), enigmatic pronouncement (vv. 33-34)¹⁸⁴⁴ and belief/unbelief conflicts (v. 31; cf. Daise, 2007: 18).¹⁸⁴⁵ The role of the narrator as a figure who builds suspense and surprise to the story is conspicuous at several intervals. All these aspects increase the dramatic aspects of a drama (cf. Tan, 1993: 26-49)¹⁸⁴⁶ and lead the reader forward for the next events.¹⁸⁴⁷ The dialogue, thus, functions and progresses as one between Jesus the protagonist and his Jewish counterparts and their diverse worldviews (cf. Thompson, 1988: 19-24). The antithetical tone and language of the dialogue invite the attention of the reader to take sides with the protagonist of the story (Lategan, 2009: 457-84; Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-19).

Jesus' representation from the 'heavenly' Father and his dialogue with the 'earthly' people add dramatic features to the slot. Smalley (1978: 192-93) says that, "This Johannine ambivalence accounts for all the 'ups and downs' and 'comings and goings' in the gospel. John has two things in mind at once. The Son of man has descended from heaven and will ascend into heaven. The following things are decisive in order to understand the dramatic function of the dialogue: *first*, the narrator intends to present Jesus as one 'from above' over against his interlocutors who are 'from below';¹⁸⁴⁸ *second*, Jesus' role is presented as one from the Father over against Moses the law-giver and teacher of Israel (cf. Moo, 1984: 3-49);¹⁸⁴⁹ *third*, the *question-and-answer* method of this dialogue section reveals Jesus' interactive stature and availability for people concerning his person and work;¹⁸⁵⁰ and *fourth*, the plot of the narrative is structured, featuring a division within the Jewish community about Jesus (vv. 10-13), then, a stratification of

¹⁸⁴¹ Also see the appearance of the term 'circumcision' in vv. 22 and 23.

¹⁸⁴² The secrecy motif at the beginning of the narrative, initiative for 'killing Jesus', and the arrest attempt by the temple police complement suspense to the dialogic development. The theme of continuous attempts to kill Jesus through chaps. 7 and 8 (7:1, 11, 19-20, 25, 44; 8:37, 40, 59; also attempts to arrest Jesus, 7:30, 32, 44-45; cf. Carson, 1993: 287; Neyrey, 2009: 207-8; Van der Watt, 2007: 15; Asiedu-Pepurah, 2001: 45).

¹⁸⁴³ Smith (1999: 173) is of the opinion that, "Who then tried to arrest Jesus (v. 30) is not entirely clear. Apparently the whole crowd, for many of them believed in him (v. 31). Quite possibly this statement simply points at the next attempt to arrest Jesus (vv. 32-52). That the effort failed reflects the fact that Jesus' hour has not come (12:23)". Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 148; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 269; Barrett, 1978: 323.

¹⁸⁴⁴ See Carson, 1991: 320; Bruce, 1983: 180; Barrett, 1978: 324-5; Lindars, 1972: 295-6.

¹⁸⁴⁵ Belief/unbelief conflict again comes into play as it is the internal thread of the central narrative.

¹⁸⁴⁶ Cf. Elam, 1980: 208-10; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Barry, 1970: 10-51.

¹⁸⁴⁷ The themes of the slot, like the secrecy motif, will of God, human glory versus God's glory, law, circumcision, Sabbath, judge/judgment, Messiah, signs, and dispersion are closely linked to the characters and their movements. Cf. Carson, 1991: 310-20; Barrett, 1978: 317-25; Lindars, 1972: 286-96; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 261-71; Bruce, 1983: 174-80; Witherington, 1995: 172-3.

¹⁸⁴⁸ In all the responses of Jesus to the Jews, he speaks about his identity as the one 'from above' contrary to the view of his interlocutors as they are all 'from below'. His close relationship with the father, his being in the world sent by the father, and his existence in the world in a temporary period are the key aspects of his discussion.

¹⁸⁴⁹ Jesus is the one who is sent 'from the world of truth' to the world of untruth. From the overall perspective of the dialogue, John is trying to present Jesus as the ideal human. Cf. Carson, 1991: 310-20; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 261-71; Bruce, 1983: 174-80; Lindars, 1972: 286-96; Barrett, 1978: 317-25.

¹⁸⁵⁰ Cf. Lindars, 1972: 286-96; Barrett, 1978: 317-25; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 261-71; Carson, 1991: 310-20.

believing from the unbelieving¹⁸⁵¹ by way of dialogic interactions (vv. 14-34), and, then, by a community dialogue (vv. 35-36).¹⁸⁵² All these aspects reveal the unique role of Jesus as the protagonist within the episode. Moreover, all these aspects engage the reader in relation to the characters and the narrator of the story.¹⁸⁵³ The reader is expected to fill up the 'gaps' through her/his active involvement with the text (cf. Davies, 1992: 27-31).¹⁸⁵⁴

The narrator of the dialogue employs some of the important hermeneutical principles in order to present Jesus and his dialogues with a professional touch. He uses the professionalism¹⁸⁵⁵ of an author in order to narrate the person, work, movements, point of view and dialogues of Jesus effectively and contextually (cf. Ensor, 2006: 14-33). The narrator employs hermeneutical principles like *corporate personality* or *representation*,¹⁸⁵⁶ *typology*,¹⁸⁵⁷ *eschatological fulfillment*¹⁸⁵⁸ and *Messianic presence*¹⁸⁵⁹ in order to present the story persuasively before the

¹⁸⁵¹ Jesus' dialogues with people mostly take place by keeping one agenda in mind, distinguish between the believing and the unbelieving.

¹⁸⁵² In his response sections in vv. 16-19 and vv. 21-24 he raises some questions back to the Jews—mentions of Moses, circumcision and Sabbath, and through these he tries to confirm the fact that he is the one really sent by God. Smalley (1978: 192) says that, "John's deliberate ambivalence that we are never quite sure at any one moment on which level he is to be understood—the earthly or the heavenly, in time or in eternity . . . He is aware of history; but he is also aware of the supra-historical to which history itself points".

¹⁸⁵³ Cf. Lategan, 2009: 457-84; Reinhartz, 2001: 17-31; Powell, 1990: 11-22.

¹⁸⁵⁴ Lategan (2009: 478) is of the view that, "The text contains 'gaps' of different kinds that anticipate the involvement of the reader in various degrees. In most cases, this participation is assumed without further comment". In John 7:14-36, the narrator of the story and the interlocutors (especially, Jesus) implicitly (also explicitly) persuade the reader to be on the side of Jesus and believing. Thus an interactive reading will fill the gaps at several intervals.

¹⁸⁵⁵ Here *professionalism* means that the high standard one expects from a person who is well-trained in a particular job. Here we consider John as an expert in hermeneutical/interpretative developments.

¹⁸⁵⁶ It describes reciprocal relationship between the individual and the community, primarily existed in the 'Semitic mind'. It portrays individual behavior and its corporate effects and vice versa. The Christological titles, 'Son of Man' and 'Son of God' were representative titles used for the Israelites in the OT. Moses is pictured as a corporate personality or representation of the mainstream Judaism. In this case, the wider community is known on the basis of the influential or representative figures/groups and their ideologies. See vv. 19-24; cf. Snodgrass, 1991: 461; Hays and Green, 1995: 42.

¹⁸⁵⁷ A method of interpretation with set rules in particular but a way of thinking. It argues for OT texts as 'prefiguration' of what God would do in the NT, especially through the work of Jesus and the church. Glasson (1963: 48) says that, "In approaching John 7 we must remember that in the Old Testament and in later writings, the manna and the water from the rock are often linked together". He (1963: 48; cf. Lev 23:42) says further, "John 6 presents Christ as the bread corresponding to the manna. It is therefore not surprising to find in chapter 7 the promise of living water, particularly in the context of the Feast of Tabernacles when the wilderness years were commemorated". Cf. Dodd, 1953: 128; Baker, 1976: 137-157.

¹⁸⁵⁸ The author also endeavours to see the meaning and significance of OT stories in the first century context as an eschatological fulfillment. This assumption has many similarities with the belief of the people of the Qumran community. They viewed themselves as end-time community and developed the exegetical method called *Pesher* to interpret the OT, so the early church believed that they were living in the end time. As devout Jews, the first Christian interpreters regarded Jesus as Israel's realised Messiah and end time has been inaugurated. Cf. Longenecker, 1975: 95.

¹⁸⁵⁹ The Early Church with most of Judaism assumed that their scripture may have some general references for the nation, prophets, priests or kings, but all of them represent the Christ and his work. The Jewish expectation of an idealised Davidic king can be seen in their scriptures. The early church applied such texts to Jesus because of their convictions about his identity. It was not an attempt to prove Jesus' identity but explain how the Scriptures fit with him. See Snodgrass, 1991: 419.

narrator gives his reader hints that another dialogue has taken place at the temple premises. Jesus' pronouncement in vv. 37b-38 is addressed as ἔκραξεν λέγων ('cried out', v. 37; cf. 28), i.e., a loud proclamation (cf. Morris, 1995: 373; Dodd, 1960: 348). His utterance in vv. 37b-38 has two parts: *first*, an invitation for those who believe so that they may come to him and drink (Ἐάν τις διψᾷ ἐρχέσθω πρὸς με καὶ πινέτω. ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμέ, vv. 37b-38a; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 17; Bennema, 2002: 192-5);¹⁸⁷⁰ and *second*, a promise-to-fulfillment quotation from the scripture (καθὼς εἶπεν ἡ γραφή, ποταμοὶ ἐκ τῆς κοιλίας αὐτοῦ ρεύσουσιν ὕδατος ζῶντος, v. 38b; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 65; Keener, 2003: 1: 722-30).¹⁸⁷¹ The greatness of the saying is emphasised and further interpreted by the narrator in v. 39 (cf. Robertson, 1932: 131-2; Talbert, 1992: 145-8; see Table 69).¹⁸⁷²

John 7:37-44	Overview
<p>v.37: Ἐν δὲ τῇ ἑσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ μεγάλῃ τῆς ἑορτῆς εἰστήκει ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἔκραξεν λέγων· ἐάν τις διψᾷ ἐρχέσθω πρὸς με καὶ πινέτω.</p> <p>v.38: ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμέ, καθὼς εἶπεν ἡ γραφή, ποταμοὶ ἐκ τῆς κοιλίας αὐτοῦ ρεύσουσιν ὕδατος ζῶντος.</p> <p>v.39: τοῦτο δὲ εἶπεν περὶ τοῦ πνεύματος ὃ ἐμελλον λαμβάνειν οἱ πιστεύσαντες εἰς αὐτόν· οὐπω γὰρ ἦν πνεῦμα, ὅτι Ἰησοῦς οὐδέπω ἔδοξάσθη.</p> <p>v.40: Ἐκ τοῦ ὄχλου οὖν ἀκούσαντες τῶν λόγων τούτων ἔλεγον· οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ προφήτης·</p> <p>v.41: ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ χριστός, οἱ δὲ ἔλεγον· μὴ γὰρ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας ὁ χριστὸς ἔρχεται;</p> <p>v.42: οὐχ ἡ γραφή εἶπεν ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος Δαυὶδ καὶ ἀπὸ</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 37-44 is comprised of four utterance units (vv. 37b-38, 40b, 41a, 41b-42); out of the three utterance units one is of Jesus (vv. 37b-38) and three are of the Jews (vv. 40b, 41a, 41b-42);</p> <p>(2) While Jesus' declaration in vv. 37b-38 is reported as the first utterance of the sub-slot (and also as the central and enigmatic utterance), Jews' three utterances (vv. 40b, 41a, 41b-42) are reported as part of a community dialogue;</p>

symbols had been eliminated from the ceremony Jesus stood up (εἰστήκει) and proclaimed (ἔκραξεν) in the Temple that he is the provider of water (vv. 37-38) and light of the world (8:12; cf. 9:5)". Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 152) says that, "The 'last' day of the feast of Tabernacles could mean either the seventh day or the eighth, that of the 'solemn assembly'. Though in rabbinic sources the expression is regularly used for the eighth day, in the present case it can only mean the last day of the festal week, i.e., the seventh day".

¹⁸⁶⁹ Keener (2003: 721; cf. Talbert, 1992: 145; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 272-3) views a common structure in 7:10-36 and 7:37-52: "Jesus teaches in the temple at the feast (7:14-24; 7:37-39); people speculate about his identity (7:25-29, 31; 7:40-43); the attempt to arrest him fails (7:30, 32-36; 7:44-52)". But Morris (1995: 373) opines that, "Until now nothing has been recorded of his teaching at this feast, for all his words in this chapter hitherto have been replies to the accusations of his foes. But now, at the culmination of the greatest feast of the Jewish year, he unfolds its significance in terms of the life he came to bring". Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 152) opines that, "Jesus stands there—probably at the time when the water is drawn and the procession round the altar is taking place".

¹⁸⁷⁰ About the sequence of the content Keener (2003: 722; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 272-4; Asiedu-Pepurah, 2001: 45) says that, "Jesus has already addressed those who thirst (6:35), invited them to 'come' to him and 'believe' in him (6:35), and spoken of drinking from his gift of living water (4:14)".

¹⁸⁷¹ There is a question about the source of the quote mentioned in v. 38. Pryor (1992: 40; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 155-6) says that, "The Festival of Tabernacles remembers the time of Israel's wilderness wanderings, so we may consider it certain that John has the rock tradition of Exo 17 and Num 20 in mind in 7:37-39". He (1992: 40) talks about the inter-textual nature of the text in the following lines, "As the Israelites were fed with the manna and drank the water from the rock which Moses struck, so Christ is the true Bread and is the giver/source of the water of life. These two traditions were often mentioned together in both Jewish and Christian writings". Also see Brant, 2004: 211; Carson, 1991: 322-3; cf. Isa 55:1.

¹⁸⁷² Witherington (1995: 173; cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 203-4) is of the opinion that, "... the ongoing Temple dialogue (7:37-52; 8:12-59) may emphasise how Jesus is the fulfillment of what the festival celebrated, the giving of water (rain) on the last day of the feast, and the celebration of lights on the first day of the feast".

<p>Βηθλέεμ τῆς κώμης ὅπου ἦν Δαυὶδ ἔρχεται ὁ χριστός; v.43: σχίσμα οὖν ἐγένετο ἐν τῷ ὄχλῳ δι' αὐτόν. v.44: τινὲς δὲ ᾔθελον ἐξ αὐτῶν πιᾶσαι αὐτόν, ἀλλ' οὐδεὶς ἐπέβαλεν ἐπ' αὐτόν τὰς χεῖρας.</p>	<p>(3) The narratives of the episode are <i>narrative</i> (vv. 37a, 39, 43-44) and <i>for</i> <i>narrative</i> (vv. 37a, 40a, 41a, 41b).</p>
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Table 69: The dialogue of 7:37-44 within the narratorial framework

The narrator of the slot describes Jesus' utterance in the following way: *first*, "Jesus said that the Spirit which believers in him were to receive" (τοῦτο δὲ εἶπεν περὶ τοῦ πνεύματος ὃ λαμβάνειν οἱ πιστεύσαντες εἰς αὐτόν, v. 39a); and *second*, Jesus' glorification and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (οὕτω γὰρ ἦν πνεῦμα, ὅτι Ἰησοῦς οὐδέπω ἐδοξάσθη, v. 39b; cf. Keener, 722-30; Talbert, 1992: 144).¹⁸⁷³ The single but the most important pronouncement of Jesus in this slot is wrapped up in narratives (cf. Strachan, 1941: 200-3; Daise, 2003: 687-699). Though Jesus does not refer directly about the Holy Spirit (but only uses metaphorical expressions), the narrator makes it explicit to the reader by the expressions πνεῦμα and οἱ πιστεύσαντες (cf. 39a and Quast, 1991/1996: 64-6; Cory, 1997: 95-116).

The great saying of Jesus (vv. 37b-38) paves way for the successive dialogue (i.e., vv. 40b-42; also vv. 45-52; cf. Bennema, 2002: 192-5; Dodd, 1960: 348). The dialogue in vv. 40b-42 after the crowd 'hear the words of Jesus' (ἀκούσαντες τῶν λόγων τούτων, v. 40a; cf. vv. Painter, 1993: 296). The narrator describes the tri-tier dialogue as follows: *first*, some in the crowd said: "This is really the prophet" (Οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ προφήτης, v. 40b); *second*, others said: "This is the Messiah" (Οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστός, v. 41a); and some others: *third*, raised questions (vv. 41b-42; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 18; see Table 69).¹⁸⁷⁴ The two questions raised in vv. 41b-42 are: *first*, "surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he?" (Μὴ γὰρ ἀπὸ Γαλιλαίας ὁ Χριστὸς ἔρχεται, v. 41b); and *second*, "has not the scripture said that the Messiah descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?" (οὐχ οὐκ εἶπεν ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος Δαυὶδ καὶ ἀπὸ Βηθλέεμ τῆς κώμης ὅπου ἦν Δαυὶδ ἔρχεται ὁ Χριστός, v. 42, cf. Brant, 2004: 46; Duke, 1985: 66-7).¹⁸⁷⁵ Moloney (1998: 254) comments that "The messianic background to the celebration of Tabernacles has been strongly present in the attempts of the Jerusalemites and the people to locate Jesus within their messianic categories."

¹⁸⁷³ Haenchen (1984: 2: 18) quotes Bultmann (1971: 303) saying that, "Only v. 39b could possibly be a gloss, although the view that the community will not receive the Spirit until after Jesus' δοξάσθηναι ['glorify'] also the view of the Farewell discourses (cf. especially 14:26; 16:7)". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 277; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 156-7; Lindars, 1972: 301-2.

¹⁸⁷⁴ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 277) mentions that, "Some have regarded this whole discussion as representing the disputes about the person of Jesus in the 'Johannine community'". But he (1987/1997: 277; cf. Wieman, 1995: 174) says that, "It is doubtful, however, whether such a reconstruction of later disputes can be right from the words of this text".

¹⁸⁷⁵ Keener (2003: 1: 730-1; cf. Duke, 1985: 24) says that, "In contrast to Jesus' hearers in the story the informed reader probably knows that Jesus did after all come from Bethlehem (7:42), casting the hearers' question in an ironic light. Many ironies in Greek tragedies did not need to be spelled out because the story was a known to the audience". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 277; Witherington, 1995: 174; Carson, 1991: 329-30.

¹⁸⁷⁶ Moloney (1998: 254) categorises as follows: The Messianic background to the celebration of Tabernacles is strongly present in the attempts of the Jerusalemites and the people to locate Jesus within their messianic categories: *first*, the hidden Messiah (the Jerusalemites: vv. 26-27); *second*, the miracle-working Messiah (many of the people: vv. 31); *third*, the Messiah who provides living water (some of the people: vv. 37-41a); and *fourth*, the Davidic Messiah (some of the people: vv. 41b-42).

As Moloney says, the narrator of the story attempts to portray Jesus in Messianic terms throughout the episode. In vv. 43-44, the narrator describes the aftermath of Jesus' utterance (vv. 37b-38) and the little dialogue among the crowd (vv. 40-42) as follows: *first*, there was a 'division' (σχίσμα) among the crowd concerning Jesus (v. 43; cf. Bruce, 1983: 184; Morris, 1995: 380-1);¹⁸⁷⁷ *second*, some wanted to arrest (πιάσαι) him (v. 44a); and *third*, no one laid hands on him (ἀλλ' οὐδεὶς ἐπέβαλεν ἐπ' αὐτὸν τὰς χεῖρας, v. 44b; see Table 69).¹⁸⁷⁸ Thus the content of the dialogue is outlined as the revelation of Jesus' prophetic role as the Messiah and its effect upon his interlocutors.

The plot structure of John 7:37-44 works as follows: *first*, Jesus' 'great saying' (vv. 37b-38) is introduced as a *prolegomena* in order to put a basis for the succeeding dialogue (cf. Dodd, 1960: 348; Neyrey, 2009: 208-9); and *second*, Jesus' 'messiahship' is discussed at the community level (vv. 40-42; cf. Bennema, 2002: 192-5; Moore, 1989: 25-40).¹⁸⁷⁹ Morris (1995: 371-2) comments that, "Tabernacles was a festival rich in symbolism and popular appeal, and the symbolism forms the background to our Lord's saying". As Morris says, the presence of Jesus in the temple during the feast of Tabernacles and his utterance about the "rivers of living water" bring to light the symbolic value of the slot.¹⁸⁸⁰ Jesus' utterance in vv. 37b-38 is *enigmatic*, *metaphorical* (cf. Joubert, 2007: 94-5),¹⁸⁸¹ *symbolic*¹⁸⁸² and *intertextual* (v. 38b). The dialogue of Jesus' interlocutors uses *assertive* and *messianic statements*, *rhetorical questions*, *historical verisimilitudes*,¹⁸⁸³ *traditional belief affirmations*, *misunderstanding statements*,¹⁸⁸⁴ and *forensic tones* (vv. 40-42; cf.

¹⁸⁷⁷ Here 'division' is the aftermath of conflict. Perrine (1974: 44; cf. Powell, 1990: 42; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 203) defines conflict broadly as "a clash of actions, ideas, desires, or wills". Powell (1990: 42; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 15) says that, "Such oppositions seem to be integral to narrative, for it is difficult to imagine a story that does not contain some elements of conflict".

¹⁸⁷⁸ The 'great saying' section leads to a community dialogue about Jesus. The three usages of ἔλεγον (v. 40, one time; v. 41, two times) direct the reader's attention toward the three groups of people and their interactions among themselves. The σχίσμα (division) among the people on account of Jesus and some groups' attempt of πιάσαι (arrest) ended up in futility. See, 2:21-22 for a similar note explaining the impressive saying of 2:19 (cf. 7:39). Painter (1993: 296-97; cf. Witherington, 1995: 174) states that, "The divided crowd is again in view in 7:40-44. What divided them was the words of Jesus, this time the impressive saying made on the last, the great day of the feast, 7:37-38. So impressive was this saying that it warrants an explanatory note by the narrator".

¹⁸⁷⁹ Haenchen (1984: 2: 18) says that, "These verses depict the recognition that follows Jesus' speech: he is regarded as the prophet or even as the Christ. But that provokes another objection: the Christ does not come from Galilee". Cf. Painter, 1993: 296-7; Carson, 1991: 321; Stibbe, 1994: 32-53; Morris, 1995: 373-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 113.

¹⁸⁸⁰ For more details about the importance of characters and their symbolic value in a narrative, refer to Culpepper, 1983: 41, 148; Van der Watt, 2010: 156.

¹⁸⁸¹ Carson (1991: 321) says, "The proclamation of Jesus recorded in these verses, with its dependence on a water metaphor, is entirely appropriate to its setting in the Feast of Tabernacles with its well-known water-pouring rite".

¹⁸⁸² Carson (1991: 328; cf. Lindars, 1972: 298; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 272) states that, "Water sometimes served as a symbol for the Holy Spirit, and, in at least one Jewish interpretation, the ceremony in question was called the 'water-drawing' ceremony because 'from there they draw the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, as it is written, With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation [Isa 12:3; cf. *j. Sukkah* 5:1; *Ruth Rabbah* 4:8]".

¹⁸⁸³ Baldick (1990: 236) defines *verisimilitude* as "the semblance of truth or reality in literary works; or the literary principle that requires a consistent illusion of truth to life As a critical principle, it originates in Aristotle's concept of mimesis or imitation of nature. It was invoked by French critics (as *vraisemblance*) to enforce the dramatic unities in the 17th and 18th centuries, on the grounds that changes of scene or time would break the illusion of truth to life for the audience". Jesus' interpretation of the scripture in v. 38b is "the illusion of truth to life for the audience". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 272-8; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 152-9; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 203-4.

¹⁸⁸⁴ Cf. Carson, 1991: 330; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 117-9; Blomberg, 2001: 138.

Lincoln, 1994: 3-30; Loader, 1997: 467-9; see Table 70).¹⁸⁸⁵ While Jesus' *enunciation*¹⁸⁸⁶ takes place at the *front of stage* (cf. vv. 37b-38), the *community dialogue* takes place at the *rear of stage* (cf. vv. 40b-42).¹⁸⁸⁷ John connects the enigmatic pronouncement with succeeding community dialogue by way of an *implicit commentary* in v. 39.¹⁸⁸⁸

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Enigmatic pronouncement, invitation, metaphor, symbolic, intertextuality (Isa 12:3; 43:20; 44:3; 55:1)	Let anyone who is thirsty come to Jesus, and one who believes in him drink. As the scripture said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water'
Some in the crowd	Assertive statement	Jesus is really the prophet
Others	Assertive statement, Messianic statement	Jesus is the Messiah
Some	Rhetorical questions, misunderstanding statement, irony, Messianic statement, traditional belief, intertextuality (2 Sam 7:12; Psalm. 132:11; Jer 23:5; Mic 5:2; cf. Luke 2:4)	Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee. Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived

Table 70: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 7:37-44

The devices like *inter-textuality* (vv. 38, 42),¹⁸⁸⁹ *misunderstanding* (vv. 40-42) and *irony* (cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 730-1)¹⁸⁹⁰ work efficaciously within the slot (cf. Ensor, 2006: 16-33). The elements like *text to interpretation* (v. 38b; cf. v. 42), *speech to writing* (vv. 37b-38; also 42) and *metaphorical to literal language* (vv. 37b-39; cf. Joubert, 2007: 94-5; Chatman 142-3) are important features of the prolegomena (vv. 37-39; cf. Robertson, 1932: 130-2).

¹⁸⁸⁵ Neyrey (2007: 148-49) says that, "The forensic process continues with people judging 'these words' of we saw earlier in 7:10-13, once more we find a 'schism', a divided judgment. First we find positive acknowledgment that Jesus is 'the prophet' and 'the Messiah'. Then we find negative testimony: 'The Messiah does not come from Galilee'".

¹⁸⁸⁶ Morris (1995: 378) considers it as a *cryptic utterance*. Ridderbos (1987/1997: 272) considers it as a *pronouncement*.

¹⁸⁸⁷ The narrator places Jesus the protagonist at the *front-of-stage* almost all the time. But a dialogue with interlocutors, i.e., in his absence, has to be considered as a *rear-of-stage* development.

¹⁸⁸⁸ The pericope at vv. 37-44 sustains some of the major literary elements like a *metaphorical pronouncement* (vv. 37b-38), *narratorial asides* (vv. 37a, 39, 40a, 43-44), and a *dialogue at the community level* (vv. 40b-42). The narrative style is vivid and concrete and yet the evangelist is capable of providing a *summary retrospective commentary*. Neyrey (2007: 148) opines that, "The aside in 7:39 reminds us of how cryptic Jesus' remark was at the time could possibly understand it because it refers to a distant phenomenon".

¹⁸⁸⁹ Quast (1991/1996: 65) states that, "It is not clear which Scripture is being 'quoted' since there is no Old Testament passage that exactly corresponds to the reference in John 7:38. A number have been suggested, the most among them being Psalm 78:15-16; 105:40-41; Prov 18:4; Zech 14:8; Eze 47:1-11; and Isa 58:11. Of these, the last is perhaps the closest parallel". Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 113-7; Morris, 1995: 373-80; Bruce, 1983: 181-2; 1991: 322, 327-8; Lindars, 1972: 298.

¹⁸⁹⁰ The narrative section ends with a *contrast between wish and act* (v. 44). Cf. Bruce, 1983: 184; Duke, 1985: 37; Meeks, 1967: 37; Carson, 1991: 329-30. Duke (1985: 113; cf. 66) says that, "He who called the thirsty to water (7:37-38) will for their sake embrace thirst. He who inaugurated his work with the excellent new wine must in the hour when that work is 'finished' receive the bitter wine of death".

2003: 687-99).¹⁸⁹¹ Jesus' statement is a paradigm and an invitation toward faith (v. 38; cf. Strachan, 1941: 201-3; Bultmann, 1971: 302-6).¹⁸⁹² The narrator of the slot interprets his metaphorical expressions like thirst, drink, streams of living water, and flow in the light of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (v. 39; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 17-8).¹⁸⁹³ Three different perspectives about the identity of Jesus are discussed at the community level (see vv. 40b, 41a, 41b-42). The titles ὁ προφήτης (one time; v. 40) and ὁ Χριστὸς (three times; vv. 41a, 41b, 42) show the messianic nature of the community dialogue (cf. Robertson, 1932: 132-3).¹⁸⁹⁴ The flow of thought from Jesus' utterance to the dialogue among his interlocutors has the character of a 'little drama' (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Tan, 1993: 26-93). The dramatic picturisation of the division helps the reader to understand the impact of Jesus' words and deeds upon the crowd and the nature of the dialogue developed among them (cf. Elam, 1980: 208-10; Witherington, 1995: 173). As Lane (1974: 26-9) comments that, the use of *simple sentence construction*, *parataxis*,¹⁸⁹⁵ *direct speech* and the *historical present*¹⁸⁹⁶ serve to make Jesus one of the contemporaries of those who hear or read the account. By taking all the above elements into consideration, one can say that the overarching trend of the dialogue at vv. 37-44 is the sequence of Jesus' *messianic revelation* and the subsequent *community dialogue* among his interlocutors (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 302; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 203).¹⁸⁹⁷ That means, the slot as a whole has the form of *an enigmatic pronouncement turned to a community dialogue* (cf. Strachan, 1941: 200-3; Bultmann, 1971: 302-6).¹⁸⁹⁸

The development of the slot from an enigmatic pronouncement to a community dialogue (vv. 37-44) functions with both *analeptic* and *proleptic* tendencies (cf. Genette, 1980: 48-79; Powell,

¹⁸⁹¹ In vv. 37-38, the texts of the Old Testament are christologically interpreted, Jesus' utterance is transferred from the oral to the written, and his metaphorical expression is literally brought to the notice of the reader by the narrator.

¹⁸⁹² The usage of the expression ὁ πιστεύων reveals the importance of faith in Jesus.

¹⁸⁹³ John's presentation of Jesus' teaching through short wisdom sayings (*aphorisms*, 7:37-38; cf. 2:19; 4:37; 12:24-26; 13:16; 18:36-37) is a commendable feature (cf. Bennema, 1995: 119). Baldick (1990: 13; cf. Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 15-6) defines 'aphorism' as "a statement of some general principle, expressed memorably by condensing much wisdom into few words".

¹⁸⁹⁴ Keener (2003: 1: 731) says that, "... John nowhere mentions Jesus' birth in Bethlehem explicitly, because for him the crucial theological issue is not where Jesus was born, but where he was ultimately *from*: from above, from heaven, from God".

¹⁸⁹⁵ As a literary technique it is derived from Greek for 'act of placing side by side'. It is juxtaposition of syntactic units without a clear connection. In John, it is used as a stylistic feature by the author of the gospel.

¹⁸⁹⁶ In linguistics and rhetoric, the historical present (sometimes 'dramatic present') refers to the employment of the present tense when narrating past events. Besides its use in writing about history, especially in historical chronicles (listing a series of events), it is used in fiction, for 'hot news' (as in headlines), and in everyday conversation. In conversation, it is particularly common with 'verbs of connection such as *tell*, *write*, and *say* (and in colloquial use, *go*). Literary critics and grammarians have said that the historical present has the effect of making past events more vivid. See Huddleton and Pullum, 2002; Leech, 1971; Brinton, 221-44.

¹⁸⁹⁷ Strachan (1941: 203) states that, "The Evangelist here displays a remarkable knowledge of the variety of popular Messianic expectation. There is division of opinion as to the genuineness of Jesus' claims. The majority opinion is in His favour, and the authorities dare not arrest Him".

¹⁸⁹⁸ Beasley-Murray (1987: 113-23) divides John 7:37-52 into three component parts: *first*, Jesus the source of living water (7:37-39); *second*, Division among the people (7:40-44); and *third*, Division among the authorities (7:45-52). Beasley-Murray treats the section 7:37-52 as a single narrative unit. But a careful analysis of the section makes us to divide it into two: vv. 37-44 and vv. 45-52. In vv. 37-44, Jesus' 'great saying' and the dialogue of the crowd are happening at the same setting. Jesus' utterance in vv. 37b-38 is connected with the narrative note "when they heard these words" in v. 40a. Contrary to that, the narrative setting of vv. 45-52 is different as the narrator indicates "then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees" (v. 45a).

1990: 37).¹⁸⁹⁹ The usage of the expression 'living water' is synonymous to the usages Samaritan dialogue (cf. 4:13-14).¹⁹⁰⁰ Morris (1995: 373; cf. Joubert, 2007: 94-5) comments the backward looking tendency of the utterance in the following way: "In chapt. 4 we have references to the living water, but here only is the explanation given in terms of the Spirit".¹⁹⁰¹ But, both the passages (in chaps. 4 and 7) lead the reader forward (cf. Stibbe 170-93; Motyer, 2006: 194-209).¹⁹⁰² The narrator of the slot views the characters in the following way: *first*, Jesus is the fulfiller of the scripture (v. 38b), one who is yet to be glorified (v. 38b); *second*, the provider of living water (v. 38);¹⁹⁰³ and *third*, the crowd is a divided (at least three) community on account of the identity of Jesus (vv. 40-42; cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 156; West 1993: 25-64).¹⁹⁰⁴ Jesus is pictured as a prophet (v. 40b), Messiah (vv. 41-42), one about whom the crowd is divided (vv. 40-43), one whom a group of the crowd attempt to arrest (v. 44), one who has spoken eloquently (vv. 37b-38; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 64-6).¹⁹⁰⁵ Jesus' character is defined by his messianic nature,¹⁹⁰⁶ his cultic/religious focus, altruistic behaviour, his demand of faith and belief,¹⁹⁰⁷ and his nearness in presence as a confident proclaimer (cf. Tolmie, 1999: 170-93). Through this portrait, the narrator encourages the reader to take a 'positive choice' with regard to her/his decision to follow Jesus (cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 157).

The identity of Jesus is revealed explicitly through three means: *first*, his own proclamation (vv. 37b-38; cf. Dodd, 1960: 348; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 203); *second*, his interlocutors' dialogue with themselves (vv. 40b-42); and *third*, by narratorial asides (vv. 37a, 39, 43; cf. Windisch, 1961: 170-93).

¹⁸⁹⁹ Also refer to Chatman, 1978: 64.

¹⁹⁰⁰ Bruce (1983: 182) says that, "In the upper-room discourses Jesus emphasises that the Paraclete cannot comfort the disciples until he himself takes his departure: 'If I go', he says, 'I will send him to you' (John 16:7). The fulfillment of this promise is recorded in John 20:22".

¹⁹⁰¹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 113) remarks that, "The saying of vv. 37-38 is an outstanding example of a characteristic of the Fourth Gospel, in that a saying or episode embodies memory of the great deeds of God in the past and the anticipation of the saving acts of God in the future . . . John 6:35, 'I am the Bread of life . . .' forms a close link with the past. Keener (2003: 721-22) examines the sequence of narrated events and dialogues and states, "Each section builds up suspense to its climax, reveals deep divisions within Judaism concerning Jesus' identity; and demonstrates the sovereign plan in withholding Jesus' 'hour' for its appropriate time".

¹⁹⁰² Here, the narratorial comment in v. 39 has the amplificatory function as it elicits the attention of the reader.

¹⁹⁰³ Culpepper (1983: 93; cf. 7:20; cf. 8:48, 49, 52; 10:20-21) indicates that, "The crowd charges that Jesus is a demon because he thinks they seek to kill him. They think Jesus cannot be the Messiah because they know he came from Galilee, because the Messiah will come from Bethlehem, because no prophet has come from Galilee". Culpepper (1983: 93) further opines that, "For the discerning reader these charges expose the ignorance and misunderstanding of the opponents".

¹⁹⁰⁴ In vv. 10-13 the 'dialogue-turned-division' occurred while the crowd discussed about Jesus in his absence. In vv. 40-44 another 'dialogue-turned-division' is introduced soon after the 'enigmatic pronouncement' concerning the Holy Spirit. The dialogue among the Jews concerning the identity of Jesus resulted in a division.

¹⁹⁰⁵ Stibbe (1993: 92) is of the opinion that, ". . . throughout chap. 7, Jesus is elusive in relation to his past, his present language and movements, and to his future destiny in glory (7:39)". Cf. Morris, 1995: 371-81; Morris, 1995: 206-8; Bruce, 1983: 181-4; Westcott, 1958: 123-4; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 212-6; Blomberg, 2001: 136-8; Hoskyns, 1947: 320-5; Lindars, 1972: 297-303.

¹⁹⁰⁶ While some accepted Jesus as the Messiah, others denied it due to the reason that he came from Galilee. Cf. Lindars, 1972: 303; Bruce, 1983: 181-4; Painter, 1993: 296-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 117-8.

¹⁹⁰⁷ Stibbe (1993: 96) observes that, "In John 7, many of the characteristic Johannine themes are present: the Spirit (vv. 31, 48), sending (vv. 16, 18, 28, 29, 32, 33), truth (vv. 18, 28), signs (vv. 3, 21, 31), Moses (vv. 19, 22), judgment (vv. 24, 51), knowledge (vv. 28-29, 49), coming to Jesus (v. 37), water (v. 38), the Spirit (v. 39), glorification (v. 39), Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 152-3; Morris, 1995: 376; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 273; Witherington, 1995: 174-5; West, 1947: 320-5; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 212-6; Blomberg, 2001: 136-8; MacGregor, 1928: 206-8; West, 1923-4; Lindars, 1972: 297-303; Morris, 1995: 371-81.

64). In the community dialogue (vv. 40b-42), while the first two categories of people accept Jesus either as 'the prophet' or as 'the Messiah', the third category of people shows signs of misunderstanding and unbelief and they reject his Messiahship (cf. Strachan, 1941: 203; Robertson, 1932: 132-3). Thus a belief-unbelief conflict is placed as the root cause of the dialogue (cf. Painter, 1989: 36). The theme of water continues to hold the narratives together (vv. 37b-38; cf. 1:33; 2:7-8; 3:5; 4:13-15; 5:7; see Daise, 2003: 687-99). Brown (1966: 329; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 150) opines that, "Jesus' claim to give living water makes some among the crowd think of him as the Prophet-like-Moses. This is quite intelligible if the Scripture reference for v. 39 is the scene where Moses struck the rock".¹⁹⁰⁸ The narrator's expressions in v. 39, i.e., οὐπω γὰρ (for not yet) and οὐδέπω (not yet), invite the reader toward the succeeding episodes (cf. Robertson, 1932: 131-2; Funk, 1988: 4-5). Moreover, the usage ἐδοξάσθη (v. 39; along with ἐφανερώσεν τὴν δόξαν αὐτοῦ at 2:11) anticipates a complete glorification and outpouring of the Holy Spirit (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 17-8; Resseguie, 2005: 253).¹⁹⁰⁹ Sloyan (1988: 93) comments about Jesus' character as follows: "Recording his appearances in Jerusalem in a festal setting—hence as someone deeply committed to the worship life of Israel—John's Jesus is someone who will be immediately recognised by hearers of the gospel. He speaks and acts identically with the Johannine circle".¹⁹¹⁰ Thus the prolegomena-saying and the succeeding community dialogue motivate the reader to look forward with greater expectations (cf. Lategan, 2009: 457-82). The performative function of the language, through characterial utterances and narratorial devices, to turn the acumen of the reader toward the 'great proclaimer' is rhetorical in its effect within the framework of the slot (cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 156-7; Kennedy, 1984: 3-38).

9.2.5. Slot Five (7:45-52)¹⁹¹¹

The content and the semantic¹⁹¹² development of the fifth slot can be outlined as follows. The reader of the story may not be able to understand the exact setting of this dialogue section due to its complex nature. But the last two slots (vv. 40-44, 45-52) of chapter seven rest upon the enigmatic pronouncement of Jesus in vv. 37-38. When one considers Jesus' utterance as a 'dialogue generating pronouncement',¹⁹¹³ then the larger setting of the entire section in vv. 40-52 can be the temple at Jerusalem.¹⁹¹⁴ The appearance of the temple police (οἱ ὑπηρέται) and their dialogue with the chief priests and Pharisees (τοὺς ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ Φαρισαίους) introduces a new

¹⁹⁰⁸ According to Moloney (1998: 253), "Jesus' proclamation points to the future time: 'Out of his heart shall flow (ῥεῦσουσιν) rivers of living water' (v. 38b)".

¹⁹⁰⁹ Moloney (1998: 253) observes that, "The perfection of the messianic promise, the gift of the Spirit, and the glorification of Jesus are linked to Jesus' death . . . His self-revelation as the perfection of the Mosaic gift of water, however, leads to the confession from some that he is 'the prophet' (v. 40b) and from others that 'this is the Christ' (v. 41)". Cf. Lindars, 1972: 297-303; Morris, 1995: 371-81; Hoskyns, 1947: 320-5; Blomberg, 2001: 136-8; MacGregor, 1928: 206-8; Westcott, 1958: 123-4; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 212-6.

¹⁹¹⁰ Jesus appears first at a Passover in 2:23, then at an unnamed feast (5:1), a Passover (6:4), and the Tabernacles (7:2, 14, 37; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 6-20).

¹⁹¹¹ Haenchen (1984: 2: 18) says that, "The last subsection of chap. 7 begins with verse 45".

¹⁹¹² Cf. Chandler, 2002/2007: 189; Greimas, 1987: 63-83; Barwise, 1988: 23-38.

¹⁹¹³ According to the available evidences, chief priests and Pharisees sent the temple police to arrest Jesus in v. 32. While the temple police say "never has anyone spoken like this" (v. 46), they may be referring to Jesus' persuasive and enigmatic pronouncements at vv. 33-34 and vv. 37b-38.

¹⁹¹⁴ It happens, as in the case of slot # 4 (i.e., vv. 37-44), on the last and greatest day of the festival.

setting within the larger setting (v. 45a; cf. Dodd, 1960: 346; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 18).¹⁹¹⁵ At the same time, v. 45 brings a connection with v. 32 as temple police are sent to arrest Jesus and their return and dialogue are recorded in v. 45–49. The interconnection of different slots in the episode and the dialogue sequence are emphasized through these developments of the narrative. The interrogative tendency of the authorities¹⁹¹⁶ is once again incorporated by the narrator in v. 45b: “Why did you not arrest him (i.e., Jesus)?” (Διὰ τί οὐκ ἡγάγετε αὐτόν; cf. Robertson 1933; Smith, 1999: 176).¹⁹¹⁷ The temple police (οἱ ὑπηρέται) answered their question by way of an exclamation, “Never has anyone spoken like this!” (Οὐδέποτε ἐλάλησεν οὕτως ἄνθρωπος, v. 45b; Neyrey, 2007: 150; Strachan, 1941: 203).¹⁹¹⁸ The utterance of the Pharisees in vv. 47–49 consists of two questions and one contrasting statement in the following sequence: *first question*, “Surely you have not been deceived too, have you?” (Μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς πεπλάνησθε; v. 47; cf. Robertson 1933); *second question*, “Has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him?” (Τίς ἐκ τῶν ἀρχόντων ἐπίστευσεν εἰς αὐτόν ἢ ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων; v. 48; cf. Black, 1968: 22);¹⁹¹⁹ and (3) *contrast*, “But this crowd,¹⁹²⁰ which does not know the law—they are arrogant” (ἀλλὰ ὁ ὄχλος οὗτος ὁ μὴ γινώσκων τὸν νόμον ἐπάρματοί εἰσιν, v. 49; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 151; Talbert, 1992: 151).¹⁹²¹ The question in v. 48, i.e., “has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him?”, is fundamental in narrating the arrogant nature of the rulers of the temple, the Pharisees (see Table 71). The narratorial description in v. 50 is a device used to emphasise

¹⁹¹⁵ Wallace (1996: 327) observes that, “ἐκεῖνος is used, most likely, because the officers had been dispatched to arrest Jesus in v. 32 and were nearer in the writer’s mind than was the Sanhedrin. The narrative progresses from the arrest of Jesus to Jesus’ discourse in the temple (vv. 33–43), to the anticipation of arrest by the officers (v. 44), to the return of the officers back to the Sanhedrin (v. 45). ἐκεῖνος is thus used, it seems, because the chief priests and Pharisees are the ‘main characters’ in this discourse”.

¹⁹¹⁶ This dialogue can be considered as one at the Sanhedrin. According to Twelftree (1992: 728), the Sanhedrin was the “supreme Jewish religious, political and legal council in Jerusalem in NT times”. Bennema (2009: 80) observes that “Nicodemus reappears in 7:45–52, where we read about a gathering of the chief priests and the Pharisees—the meeting of the Sanhedrin”.

¹⁹¹⁷ Robertson (1932: 133) states that the usage of second aorist active indicative of *agō* shows “Indignant at the failure of the (τῶν) temple police to arrest Jesus”. Strachan (1941: 203) states that, “The majority opinion is in His favour, and the authorities dare not arrest Him”. Cf. Hoskyns (1947: 325–6); Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 217; Bruce, 1983: 184; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 28.

¹⁹¹⁸ Beasley-Murray (1987: 119; cf. Painter, 1993: 297) opines that, “The officers’ reaction to Jesus is a primary impression of the impression that Jesus made on people from the commencement of his ministry to its close”.

¹⁹¹⁹ According to Lightfoot (1956: 185), “In 7: 48 ‘the rulers’ are no doubt the members of the Sanhedrin, the chief priests and Pharisees’, on religious grounds, were held in chief esteem by the people; hence it is implied that although the multitude, although ignorant of the law, have been led astray and have believed on the Lord”. Lindars (1972: 304) makes note that ‘the authorities’ are distinguished from ‘the Pharisees’.

¹⁹²⁰ These persons correspond to the *‘amme ha’arets*, ‘people of the land’, of rabbinic literature. ‘The contrast is expressed or implied contrast to *talmide hakamim*, ‘scholars’; the educated class sets itself over against the ‘people of the land’. See Barrett, 1978: 332; cf. Westcott, 1958: 125. Keener (2003: 1: 733) says that, “Rabbinic repetition emphasizes the social distance that existed between Pharisees and the *Am Ha’arets*, the common people who often ignored the legal interpretations”. Talbert (1992: 151) says that, “This attitude toward the unlearned people (i.e., those not instructed by an accredited teacher) is similar to that of Hillel: ‘An uneducated man dreads not to sin, but the *ha’arets* [person of the land/one who does not know the Law] cannot be saintly (m. Pirke Aboth, 2:6)”.

¹⁹²¹ Neyrey (2007: 150) states that, “. . . in this court certain people with no status or standing are dismissed from the court”. Smith (1999: 176) says that, “The underlying question is who is able or competent rightly to understand and assess Jesus? The authorities assume that they are. It is precisely that assumption that John intends to challenge”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 119; Hoskyns, 1947: 325–6; Painter, 1993: 297; Lindars, 1972: 304.

of emphasis from a dialogue between the authorities and the temple police to a dialogue between the authorities and Nicodemus (cf. Chatman, 1978: 62-72; Genette, 1980: 67-79).¹⁹²²

John 7:45-52	Overview
<p>v.45: Ἦλθον οὖν οἱ ὑπηρέται πρὸς τοὺς ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ Φαρισαίους, καὶ εἶπον αὐτοῖς ἐκεῖνοι· διὰ τί οὐκ ἡγάγετε αὐτόν;</p> <p>v.46: ἀπεκρίθησαν οἱ ὑπηρέται· οὐδέποτε ἐλάλησεν οὕτως ἄνθρωπος.</p> <p>v.47: ἀπεκρίθησαν οὖν αὐτοῖς οἱ Φαρισαῖοι· μὴ καὶ ὁμεῖς πεπλάνηθε;</p> <p>v.48: μὴ τις ἐκ τῶν ἀρχόντων ἐπίστευσεν εἰς αὐτόν ἢ ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων;</p> <p>v.49: ἀλλὰ ὁ ὄχλος οὗτος ὃ μὴ γινώσκων τὸν νόμον ἐπάρατοί εἰσιν.</p> <p>v.50: λέγει Νικόδημος πρὸς αὐτούς, ὃ ἐλθὼν πρὸς αὐτόν [τὸ] πρότερον, εἰς ὧν ἔξ αὐτῶν·</p> <p>v.51: μὴ ὁ νόμος ἡμῶν κρίνει τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἂν μὴ ἀκούσῃ πρῶτον παρ' αὐτοῦ καὶ γινῶ τί ποιεῖ;</p> <p>v.52: ἀπεκρίθησαν καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῷ· μὴ καὶ σὺ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας εἶ; ἐραύνησον καὶ ἴδε ὅτι ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας προφήτης οὐκ ἐγείρεται.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 45-52 is comprised of five utterance units (vv. 45b, 46b, 47b-49, 51, 52b); out of the five utterance units three are of the chief priests/Pharisees (vv. 45b, 47b-49, 52b) one is of the temple police (v. 46b) and one is of Nicodemus (v. 51);</p> <p>(2) This slot does not include any utterance units of Jesus;</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 45a, 50) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 45a, 46a, 47a, 50b, 52a).</p>

Table 71: The dialogue of 7:45-52 within the narratorial framework

The narrator introduces yet another time Nicodemus¹⁹²³ to the reader by telling that “who had gone to Jesus before, and who was one of them” (v. 50; cf. 3:1-10; see Bultmann, 1971: 311; Smith, 1999: 176-7).¹⁹²⁴ While the Pharisees state that “none of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in Jesus” (v. 48), Nicodemus, a Pharisee and one among the authorities (v. 50; cf. 3:1), raises a question, “Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?” (Μὴ ὁ νόμος ἡμῶν κρίνει τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἂν μὴ ἀκούσῃ πρῶτον παρ' αὐτοῦ καὶ γινῶ τί ποιεῖ; v. 51; cf. Strachan, 1941: 204; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 51-2).¹⁹²⁵ Bennema (2009: 81) is of the opinion that, “The question, ‘None of the authorities or Pharisees have believed in him, have they?’ (7:48), reveals that the Sanhedrin is unaware that one of them, Nicodemus, ‘believes’ in, or is sympathetic to Jesus”.¹⁹²⁶ Pharisees raise another question toward Nicodemus, and finally reaffirm their messianic belief from tradition: *their question*, “Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you?” (Μὴ καὶ σὺ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας εἶ; v. 52a; cf. Bultmann, 1971:

¹⁹²² See more details about the role of narratives in a literary composition: Lee, 2004: 163-218; Lothe, 2000: 3-10.

¹⁹²³ Lindars (1972: 304; cf. Bruce, 1983: 185-6; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 282-5; Stibbe, 1993: 94; Carson, 1991: 332) states that, “He (Nicodemus) has been an open-minded enquirer, and now represents a reasonable, unprejudiced attitude in contrast with the hardening opposition of the rest. His final appearance in 19:39 will show him as virtually a full believer”. Bennema (2009: 81) says that, “Nicodemus remains ambiguous. On the one hand, he remains sympathetic to Jesus On the other hand, he appears unwilling to associate himself openly with Jesus and take the kind of stand that John would recommend”.

¹⁹²⁴ Culpepper (1983: 135) states that, “He (Nicodemus) concretises and personalises the division among the Jews which develops throughout chapter 7”.

¹⁹²⁵ Beasley-Murray (1987: 120; cf. Lightfoot, 1956: 185; Lindars, 1972: 304) says that, “Nicodemus raises his voice on behalf of Jesus. He points out that the Law does not pass sentence on a man before giving him an opportunity to speak for himself. This was true, despite the primary importance of the testimony of witnesses in law courts (cf. Deut 19:15-19), as Deut 1:16-17 and 17:2-5 show”. Pancaro (1975: 138-49; cf. Motyer, 1997: 154-5) argues at length and to little effect against the view that ‘hear’ in 7:51 indicates a judicial ‘hearing’.

¹⁹²⁶ Neyrey (2007: 150) opines that, “Nicodemus, that ambiguous figure who came to Jesus at night (3:1-2), speaks up, which might be considered heroic and so win him a place in the inner circle of disciples. Yet he does not testify on behalf of Jesus but insists on a principle of the law”. Also see Blomberg, 2001: 139; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 217-8; MacGregor, 1928: 209; Carson, 1991: 332.

311-2; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 19); and *their messianic affirmation*, “Search and you will see prophet is to arise from Galilee” (ἐραύνησον καὶ ἴδε ὅτι ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας προφήτῃ ἐγείρεται, v. 52b; cf. Robertson, 1932: 135; Resseguie, 2005: 250-1).¹⁹²⁷ The above description makes us clear that the dialogue in vv. 45-52 develops through two stages: *first*, between Jesus and the authorities and the temple police (vv. 45-49); and *second*, between Nicodemus and the religious authorities (vv. 50-52; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 135-6; Bennema, 2009: 80-1; see Table 71). The content of the dialogue is a juridical conversation concerning the righteous (Jesus) at the levels of Judaism (cf. Loader, 1997: 469).

The form of the dialogue can be determined in the following way.¹⁹²⁸ Schnackenburg (1959) considers the entire slot as an *interruption of the narrative*. He says that, “Interruption of narrative, or insertion of intervening scenes, is a literary device employed elsewhere in the Gospel (cf. 4:27-38; 11:6-16; 18:19-24; 19:1-3; 20:3-10)”. What Schnackenburg says is right as the slot lacks the physical presence of Jesus and it develops at the rear of the stage.¹⁹²⁹ The tenets of the slot show tenets of *questions* of different types (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 18; Black, 1994: 22),¹⁹³⁰ *surprise* (v. 46; cf. Witherington, 1995: 174), *unbelief* (v. 48), *knowing-unknowing* (v. 49; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 310-1), *accusation* (v. 49; cf. Neyrey, 2009: 209), *traditional interpretation* (v. 52b; cf. Robertson, 1932: 135), and *messianic emphasis* (v. 52b; see Table 72).¹⁹³¹ Beasley (1987: 119) considers the statement of the temple police in v. 46 as an *unadorned dictum*. The narrator’s *explanatory note* (v. 50) is helpful in bridging between the two stages of the slot (i.e., vv. 45-49 and vv. 50-52) within the slot.

Utterance	Form	Content
Chief priests and Pharisees	Question of power	Why the temple police did not arrest Jesus?
Temple Police	Exclamation/surprise	Never has anyone spoke like Jesus spoke
Pharisees	Question of amazement, unbelief statement, knowing-unknowing conflict, accusation	The temple police have not been deceived. Neither the authorities or Pharisees believed in him. The crowd believed in him because they do not know the law. They are accursed.

¹⁹²⁷ Robertson (1932: 135) states that, “As a matter of fact Jonah, Hosea, Nahum, possibly also Elijah, and Amos were from Galilee. It was simply the rage of the Sanhedrin against Jesus regardless of the facts”. Cf. Culpepper, 1983: 326; Painter, 1993: 298; Morris, 1995: 384-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 121; Carson, 1991: 332-3; Westcott, 1908: 125; Tenney, 1948: 137.

¹⁹²⁸ Vv. 37-52 has the following development: *first*, the punch line ‘pronouncement’ section (vv. 37-39); *second*, dialogue among the crowd (vv. 40-44); *third*, dialogue of the temple guards with the chief priests and Pharisees (vv. 45-49); and *fourth*, dialogue of Nicodemus with chief priests and Pharisees (vv. 50-52).

¹⁹²⁹ Stibbe (1994: 51) opines that, “The Jews are the front-stage Helpers of the Pharisees/chief priests who are the ‘plot’ behind the scenes (7:45). This, structurally speaking, resembles the counter-plot of John’s gospel as a whole”.

¹⁹³⁰ *Question of power, questions of amazement, and juridical question*, vv. 45b, 47, 48, 51, 52a. The dialogue develops in the form of a question raised by the chief priests and Pharisees. The temple police’s answer reveals their attitude toward the declarations of Jesus (vv. 33-34, 37b-38). Witherington (1995: 174) states that, “Nicodemus, with these authorities, objects to arresting Jesus without giving him due process, in the form of a hearing. The hearing amounts to a strong rebuke in the form of the statement that Jesus’ Galilean origins rule out his even being a prophet”. Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 280-5; Kanagaraj, 2005: 256-7; Tenney, 1948: 136-7; Bennema, 2009: 80-1; Morris, 1995: 384; Lindars, 1972: 304.

¹⁹³¹ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 281) calls it a *provocative pronouncement*.

¹⁹³² Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 155; cf. Robertson, 1932: 133) say that, “Fine speech would be an unlikely withholding an arrest in our modern society, but in antiquity great speaking implied something positive about the character of a person”.

Nicodemus	Legal question	Jewish law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing
Pharisees	Question of amazement, traditional belief, Messianic statement	Nicodemus is definitely not from Galilee. If he searches he will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee

Table 72: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 7:45-52

Scholars observe the way *forensic overtones* (cf. Neyrey, 2009: 209-10; Motyer, 1997: 153-5),¹⁹³³ *ironical elements* (cf. Chatman, 1978: 229; Duke, 1985: 80-1), and *dramatic vignette* (cf. Tan, 1993: 26-47) adorn the dialogue. Stibbe (1993: 91; cf. Lincoln, 1994: 3-30; Loader, 1997: 469) opines that, "... the *forensic overtones* of this material mark it out as yet another trial scene (note especially the informal 'trial' in 7:45-52)".¹⁹³⁴ Further, Painter (1993: 297; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 250-1; Keener, 2003: 1: 733) states that, "The *double irony* of the situation is brought out by the role of Nicodemus at this point. His objection shows that in condemning Jesus without a hearing the Pharisees were acting contrary to the Law and in this sense they do not 'know' it because knowing and doing are inseparable".¹⁹³⁵ To add more, Brown (1966: 330; cf. Elam, 1980: 208-10; Brant, 2004: 153, 223) opines that, "In vv. 45-52 John gives us a *dramatic vignette*"¹⁹³⁶ of the frustration and helplessness of the Sanhedrin authorities when faced with Jesus. Jesus has won a following among the crowds; the temple police are impressed; and even one of the members of the Sanhedrin raises his voice in Jesus' defense". While Stibbe highlights the major tenet of the dialogue in vv. 45-52, Painter and Brown point out the way literary devices help the narrator to accrete the forensic overtones (cf. Botha, 1991: 71-87; Stibbe, 1994: 73-106). Thus the overarching tenet can be one of a *forensic dialogue at the rear of stage* (cf. Neyrey, 2009: 209-10; Lincoln, 2000: 9-35).¹⁹³⁷ It includes supporting elements like *discussion and debate*, *elusiveness*

¹⁹³³ Neyrey (2009: 209; cf. Loader, 1997: 469) says that, "The forensic character of the whole narrative becomes most apparent in 7:45-52. The *arrest*, which was engineered earlier (7:32), fails when the guards sent to arrest Jesus bear favourable *testimony* on his behalf: 'No man ever spoke like this man!' (7:46). The judges, however, reject their *testimony*, 'Are you led astray, you also?' (7:47). In fact, this only confirms the original *charge* against Jesus, namely, 'He is leading the people astray' (7:12). Here is further proof for the judges that Jesus is a false prophet, a danger to Israel".

¹⁹³⁴ Strachan (1941: 204) opines that, "Nicodemus suggests pointedly that their colleagues are not obeying the spirit of the Law (Deut 1:16) In spite of the ecclesiastical authorities, Jesus has already made an impression, not only on some of the 'accursed' crowd, but within the Sanhedrin itself".

¹⁹³⁵ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 161; cf. Carson, 1991: 331; Strachan, 1941: 204; Culpepper, 1983: 135-6; Duke, 1985: 80-1; Powell, 1990: 27-31) observes the *irony* of the Pharisaic statements in vv. 47-49 as follows: "... the teachers of the Law, cursing the people who do not know the Law, do not themselves abide by the Law".

¹⁹³⁶ Baldick (1990: 238) defines 'vignette' as follows: "any brief composition or self-contained passage, usually a descriptive prose sketch, essay, or short story. The term also refers to a kind of decorative design sometimes found at the beginning or end of a chapter in a book". In John 7, the scene appears at the end of the chapter with a lot of dramatic features.

¹⁹³⁷ Dodd (1960: 348) is of the opinion that, "Meanwhile the public debate continues, on the front of stage, with no note of lapse of time, until on the final day of the Feast Jesus makes a momentous proclamation. The effect is to divide the crowd acutely. We are then returned to the back stage, where the authorities receive the report of their agents (7:45). Meanwhile (8:12), on the front stage, Jesus is continuing the public debate 'in the Treasury', the attempt to arrest Him having failed (8:20; cf. 7:45-46)".

and revelation,¹⁹³⁸ belief-unbelief conflict, messianic discussion, and political/judicial to Bultmann, 1971: 309-12).¹⁹³⁹

The function of the dialogue can be discussed in the following way (cf. Tan, 1993: 50). Usually, the verbal interaction of the characters within the narrative framework increases and dramatic progression.¹⁹⁴⁰ The narrator views the characters as follows: *first*, the chief priests and Pharisees are the authorities vehemently against Jesus (vv. 45b, 47-49, 52); *second*, the police are the officials who never heard anyone speak like Jesus spoke (v. 46); and Nicodemus, one who is in favour of Jesus and who speaks at the official level (v. 51; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 309-12; Culpepper, 1983: 135-6).¹⁹⁴¹ In the slot, Jesus is not in direct conversation with his interlocutors; but his signs and revelatory talks prompt them to have a forensic dialogue at the official level (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 3-38; Keener, 2003: 1: 731-5). The dialogic as well as the dramatic function of the slot develops into conflict and characterisation and that further leads to the development of the plot (cf. Brant, 2004: 153, 223; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24). The themes within the slot, like the persuasiveness of Jesus' speech,¹⁹⁴² belief and unbelief conflict, knowing and unknowing the law, nature of the Messiah, and judge/judgment play vital roles for the forensic process discussed at different levels (cf. Robertson, 1932: 133-5; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 18-9). The overarching question of the dialogue is circumscribed around "the identity of Jesus".¹⁹⁴³ The community dialogue in vv. 40-42 and the official dialogue in vv. 45-52 end up by stating that the prophet/Messiah does not come from Galilee (vv. 41b-42, 52; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 150; 1992: 151). The plot structure of the overall chapter seven manifests the *revelatory* and *narrative* nature of Jesus' dialogues (until vv. 37b-38) and their effect, firstly, in the community level

¹⁹³⁸ Stibbe (1993: 92) opines that, "... throughout chap. 7, Jesus is elusive in relation to his past origins, his language and movements, and to his future destiny in glory (7:39)".

¹⁹³⁹ Stibbe (1993: 91) is of the view that, "Much of the material in chap. 7 is constructed to suggest the pre-trial which has begun in chap. 5. The fact that a death sentence hangs precariously over Jesus' head shows the outcome of the argument here is a matter of life and death".

¹⁹⁴⁰ Beasley-Murray (1987: 121): Two themes dominate chap. 7, namely Jesus as the fulfillment of the Law and the Tabernacles and the *κρίσις* precipitated by his mission to Israel. The two themes are bound together, for it is because Jesus proclaims that Israel's faith, embodied in its festivals, finds its fulfillment in him that they are compelled to make a *decision* relating to him, and in so doing they *divide* according as they *judge* (all three are included in the term *κρίσις*, which denotes *separation, decision, judgment*).

¹⁹⁴¹ Stibbe (1993: 92; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 124-27) states that, "Chapter 7 explores the reactions of various groups to Jesus, and again the important thing to note is the varying faith responses represented by each. The groups can be discerned: the brothers of Jesus, the crowds in Jerusalem, the Jews, the chief priests/Pharisees, the Temple guards. The last of these (the Temple guards) are the arrest party in John's narrative".

¹⁹⁴² Bultmann (1971: 310) says that, "Jesus' words, that is, have such power that his would-be arresters dare not hold of him". See Schnackenburg, 1980: 159; Carson, 1991: 330-3; Bruce, 1983: 184; Morris, 1995: 382.

¹⁹⁴³ Neyrey (2009: 210) observes the following forensic elements as key factors in chapter 7: first, *arrest* (vv. 44, 45-46); second, *charges* (vv. 12, 21-24, 41, 47); third, *judges* (vv. 13, 15, 32, 45-52); fourth, *testimony* (vv. 12c, 16-18, 21-24, 27, 40-42, 46); fifth, *cognitio* (vv. 14-15, 28-29, 37-43); sixth, *verdict* (vv. 30, 34); and seventh, *appeal* (vv. 1, 19, 34).

¹⁹⁴⁴ Stibbe (1993: 91) states that, "In chap. 7, he [i.e., Jesus] is elusive, first of all, in the *present tense* of his words. As far as his language is concerned, Jesus' meaning is difficult throughout (see in particular 7:33-36). As far as his movements are concerned, we should note that Jesus is urged by his brothers to go openly to Judea". Cf. Bultmann, 1987/1997: 278-81; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 28; Schnackenburg, 1980: 159-61; Painter, 1993: 298.

40-44) and, secondly, in the official level (vv. 45-52).¹⁹⁴⁵ This feature of the chapter is one of the unifying factors that expressively contribute to episodic coherence and progression.

The dialogue of the officials with the temple police and Nicodemus shows the stubborn nature of the authorities toward Jesus.¹⁹⁴⁶ The secret alliance between the temple police and the authorities is brought to the notice of the reader. The temple police's loyalty toward the authorities is shown; but Jesus' persuasive words and deeds stunned them and kept them from laying their hands on him (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 159-62; Kennedy, 1984: 14-6). The difference between 'those who know the law' and 'those who don't know the law' is marked by way of an irony (cf. Neyrey, 2009: 209-12; Resseguie, 2005: 249-51). The crowd, because of their belief in Jesus, are counted as disloyal to the Law of Moses and hence they are treated aloof by the authorities from the mainstream Judaism (cf. Loader, 1997: 469).¹⁹⁴⁷ Nicodemus' talk at v. 51 reveals the way Jewish rulers go illegally against Jesus (cf. Witherington, 1995: 174; Keener, 2003: 1: 733-4). Stibbe (1993: 94; cf. Bennema, 2009: 80-1; Neyrey, 2009: 209-10) comments that, "the reader is certainly meant to view Nicodemus as 'the best of a bad bunch'. He is the only character (besides Jesus) who elicits any support from the reader".¹⁹⁴⁸ In the dialogue, while the authorities take control of the talk, the counter-parties are intimidated or silenced by their threatening responses (vv. 47-49, 52; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 18). In both stages of the dialogue (vv. 45-49, 51-52) division is explicit; in the first case between the authorities and the temple police¹⁹⁴⁹ and in the second case with one of their own colleagues (cf. Robertson, 1932: 133-5). The dialogue shows the way opinion develops both in favour of and against Jesus in several quarters of the Jewish community. It also reveals acceptance of Jesus' messiahship in certain circles and antagonism/rejection/forensic procedures in other circles.¹⁹⁵⁰ The overarching nature of the forensic language is used at its best in this (informal) dialogue (cf. Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-35; Geller, 1982: 3-40).

¹⁹⁴⁵ Quast (1991/1996: 63) says, "As Jesus is judged, divisions arise between the people and their leaders, among the crowd itself, and even within the ranks of the religious authorities (John 7:12-13, 31-32, 40-49)". See Schnackenburg, 1980: 157-62; Barrett, 1978: 330-3; Lightfoot, 1957: 184-6; Lindars, 1972: 302-5.

¹⁹⁴⁶ Cf. MacGregor, 1928: 209; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 279; Sanders and Mastin, 1968: 217; Blomberg, 2001: 138.

¹⁹⁴⁷ Robertson (1932: 134) says that, "The Pharisees had a scorn for the *amhaaretz* or 'people of the earth' (cf. our 'clod-hoppers') as is seen in rabbinic literature. It was some of the *achlos* (multitude at the feast especially from Galilee) who had shown sympathy with Jesus (7:12, 28 onward)". See Barrett, 1978: 332; Carson, 1991: 331; Hoskyns, 1947: 325-6; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 297; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 120.

¹⁹⁴⁸ Also see Bennema, 2009: 80-1; Carson, 1991: 332; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 120; Westcott, 1958: 125; Moore, 1989: 71-107; Funk, 1988: 16-8; Lategan, 2009: 457-84; Powell, 1990: 14-5.

¹⁹⁴⁹ MacGregor (1928: 209) says that, "There is no real faith on the attendants' part, yet their blind admiration serves as a foil to the stubborn hostility of their masters".

¹⁹⁵⁰ Cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 63; Witherington, 1995: 174; Painter, 1993: 296-7; Pryor, 1992: 36; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 28-30; Tenney, 1948: 136-7.

9.2.6. Slot Six (8:12-20)¹⁹⁵¹

The content of the sixth slot can be analysed as follows (cf. Barwise, 1988: 23-38; C 2002/2007: 189). The expression 'again' (ἰάλιν) is used to link the previous slot (7:45- the latter (8:12-30; cf. Moloney, 1998: 268). While the dialogue of 7:45-52 takes place in the absence of Jesus, in 8:12-30 Jesus initiates the dialogue. Thus the presence of Jesus introduces a new setting for the dialogue in 8:12-30. The sixth slot is comprised of five talk-units (cf. 2009: 228-30).¹⁹⁵² First, Jesus begins the dialogue with a self-revelatory pronouncement, "I am the light of the world" (v. 12a; Ἐγὼ εἰμι τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου),¹⁹⁵³ followed by a dualistically supplementary utterance (v. 12b; cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 141; Barrett, 1982: 98-114).¹⁹⁵⁴ The first talk unit of Jesus distinguishes between two opposite forms of life or existence, the life of Jesus and his antagonists.¹⁹⁵⁵ While those who follow Jesus will have 'the life' (τὸ φῶς τῆς ζωῆς), those who do not follow 'walk in darkness' (περιπατήσῃ ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ) (Senior, 1991: 23-4; Koester, 2002: 134).¹⁹⁵⁶ Glasson (1963: 60; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 134) remarks that, "... the saying about light is to be connected with the candlestick ceremony which took place at Tabernacles, just as the words about water (7:37-38) are linked with the water-drawing ceremony".¹⁹⁵⁷ Glasson's remark informs us that the utterance of Jesus is contextually intimate and implicative in nature. Second, the Pharisees attempt to weigh down the utterance of Jesus by considering his testimony as invalid¹⁹⁵⁸ (ἡ μαρτυρία σου οὐκ ἔστιν ἀληθής, v. 13; cf. Schnackenburg, 1988: 134).

¹⁹⁵¹ Motyer (1997: 155-6; cf. Smith, 1999: 178-80) says that, "There is no narrative break after 7:52. 'Again' probably refers back to 7:37 onward, and indicates the identity of substance between these two dramatic applications of Tabernacles imagery (water, and now light). The connecting οὖν ('therefore') perhaps points to a connection between 8:12 and 7:52".

¹⁹⁵² Dodd (1960: 346) says that 8:12-20 is "introduced by an oracular saying of Jesus. Its theme is the nature of the evidence for the claims of Jesus".

¹⁹⁵³ Painter (1993: 298) says that, "Just as Jesus returns to the theme that he seeks not his own but the Father's (see John 5:41-44; 7:17-18; 8:50, 54) so he returns to the theme of self-witness (5:31; 8:13-19). John 8:12 is a justification for Jesus' self-witness, the charge concerning which arose from his saying: 'I am the light of the world' (John 8:12)". Keener (2003: 739) says that, "This discourse opens with a christological affirmation (8:12) that provokes challenge (8:13), leading to ideological conflict and ultimately (8:59) the threat of violence". Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 188) divides the discourse into vv. 12-20, 21-29, 30-36, 37-47, and 48-59. Cf. Barrett, 1982: 98-114; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 41-2; Hoskyns, 1947: 330; Blomberg, 2001: 141; Morris, 1995: 387-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 134; Brown, 1966: 343-4; Lenski, 1942: 592-7; Parker, 1959: 210; Irudaya, 2010: 290.

¹⁹⁵⁴ Strachan (1941: 205; cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 154-5) says that, "The key-word to the section is Light (John 1:9; 3:19-21; 9:5; 12:35-46; 1 John 1:5-7; 2:8-10). 'Light' like 'Life' in this gospel always has a moral content".

¹⁹⁵⁵ Wallace (1996: 468-9; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 26; Robertson, 1932: 141) states that, "Emphatic negation is indicated by οὐ μὴ plus the *aorist subjunctive* or, less frequently, οὐ μὴ plus the future indicative (e.g. 26:35; Mark 13:31; John 4:14; 6:35). This is the strongest way to negate something in Greek". Jesus' indication is that those who follow him *will never walk in darkness*.

¹⁹⁵⁶ Bartholomä (2010: 135; cf. Robertson, 1932: 141; Van der Watt, 2010: 156, 158-9) is of the view that the initial statement provokes the Pharisees' question about the validity of his testimony. Jesus answers by providing double authentication of his claims both by himself and by his Father (John 8:12-20)".

¹⁹⁵⁷ Glasson (1963: 60) also says, "Mention of the treasury (8:20) is another link with the light ritual, since it was adjacent to the women's court, where this ceremony took place".

¹⁹⁵⁸ Brown (1966: 341) says that, "This is ἀληθινός (which we often translate as 'real') in vv. 13 and 14. The question of the testimony being 'verified' (ἀληθής, 'true'), and that word returns in v. 17. John does not distinguish ἀληθής and ἀληθινός distinct".

1980: 2: 192; Stibbe, 1993: 98-103).¹⁹⁵⁹ *Third*, Jesus' counter-response to the Jews is descriptive (vv. 14-18; cf. Moloney, 2005: 206-8; Keener, 2003: 1: 740-1). He takes up his *knowing* (οἶδα, v. 14a) aspect over against his interlocutors' *unknowing* (οὐκ οἶδατε, v. 14b) as a matter of his genuineness (v. 14; cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 142). He also states the difference between his judgment supported 'from above' versus the Pharisaic judgment supported 'from below' (vv. 15-16; cf. Brant, 2004: 116; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 204).¹⁹⁶⁰ Köstenberger (2004: 256; cf. Loader, 1997: 469) says that, "... rather than being law-observant, the Pharisees are in fact hostile to the law's true and ultimate point of reference".¹⁹⁶¹ By the end of his second talk Jesus states again the interconnection between his testimonies and those of his Father (cf. Stibbe, 2006: 180). *Fourth*, as Moloney (1998: 267) says, "The all-pervading question of Jesus' origins brings the Pharisees back into the dialogue asking a puzzled question: 'Where is your father?'".¹⁹⁶² *Last*, Jesus further talks about their *unknowing* (v. 19b, Οὐτε ἐμὲ οἶδατε οὐτε τὸν πατέρα μου) and silences them yet another time (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 282-3; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 27).¹⁹⁶³ Jesus' final statement clearly affirms his identity as one with that of his Father (v. 19b; cf. Stibbe, 2006: 180; see Table 73).¹⁹⁶⁴

John 8:12-20	Overview
<p>v.12: Πάλιν οὖν αὐτοῖς ἐλάλησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· ἐγὼ εἰμι τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου· ὁ ἀκολουθῶν ἐμοὶ οὐ μὴ περιπατήσει ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ, ἀλλ' ἔξει τὸ φῶς τῆς ζωῆς.</p> <p>v.13: εἶπον οὖν αὐτῷ οἱ Φαρισαῖοι· σὺ περὶ σεαυτοῦ μαρτυρεῖς· ἡ μαρτυρία σου οὐκ ἔστιν ἀληθής.</p> <p>v.14: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· καὶ ἐγὼ μαρτυρῶ περὶ ἐμαυτοῦ, ἀληθής ἐστιν ἡ μαρτυρία μου, ὅτι οἶδα πόθεν ἦλθον καὶ ποῦ ὑπάγω· ὑμεῖς δὲ οὐκ οἶδατε πόθεν ἔρχομαι ἢ ποῦ ὑπάγω.</p> <p>v.15: ὑμεῖς κατὰ τὴν σάρκα κρίνετε, ἐγὼ οὐ κρίνω οὐδένα.</p> <p>v.16: καὶ ἐὰν κρίνω δὲ ἐγὼ, ἡ κρίσις ἡ ἐμὴ ἀληθινή ἐστιν, ὅτι μόνος οὐκ εἰμί, ἀλλ' ἐγὼ καὶ ὁ πέμψας με πατήρ.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in 8:12-20 is comprised of five utterance units (vv. 12b, 13b, 14b-18, 19a, 19b); out of the five utterance units three are of Jesus (vv. 12b, 14b-18, 19b) and two are of the Pharisees (vv. 13b, 19a);</p> <p>(2) The dialogue begins and</p>

¹⁹⁵⁹ Moloney (1998: 266) states that, "According to the legal demands of Num 35:30 and Deut 17:6, Jesus' witness to himself (cf. v. 12a) is invalid (οὐκ ἔστιν ἀληθής)". Cf. Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 41-3; Morris, 1995: 390; Hoskyns, 1947: 331; Lightfoot, 1957: 189-90; Blomberg, 2001: 141.

¹⁹⁶⁰ Brown (1966: 345) says that, "... he who refuses to believe in Jesus condemns himself, while he who believes escapes condemnation". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 338; MacGregor, 1928: 194-5; Köstenberger, 2004: 254-6.

¹⁹⁶¹ Köstenberger (2004: 255; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 294-5) is of the opinion that, "Jesus does not deny his right to judge, nor does he describe the manner in which he judges. Rather, he claims that his words and actions are legitimate because they are in conformity with the mission given to him by the Father". Moloney (1998: 267; cf. Lenski, 1942: 603-4; Wallace, 1996: 576) is of the opinion that, "Jesus accepts that the Law of 'the Jews' demands the witness of two persons for true testimony (v. 17; cf. Deut 17:6; 19:15; *m. Ketub.* 2:9), but such legislation does not apply in his case. Jesus is able to bear witness to himself because he was sent by the Father who also bears witness to him (v. 18)". Moloney (1998: 269; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 194; Robertson, 1932: 143) says further that, "Critics who read this passage as Jesus' attempt to show his conformity to the Jewish legal tradition read v. 17 as a statement of an acceptable legal principle. Jesus then shows he fulfills the principle in the two witnesses of himself and his Father (v. 18)".

¹⁹⁶² Ridderbos (1987/1997: 297) opines that, "In raising the question they are assuming a formal legal position: if a person appeals to the testimony of a witness, that person should be able to produce a witness! Again, therefore, they are presenting a demand for legitimation and an indirect challenge: if the Father is going to be your witness, bring him forward!" Also see Lightfoot, 1957: 189-90; Hoskyns, 1947: 332; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 130.

¹⁹⁶³ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 195) says that, "This is an attack on Judaism, whose proudest possession, the knowledge of God, is being denied because they have rejected God's eschatological messenger, his Son". Cf. Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 41-4; Keener, 2003: 742; MacGregor, 1928: 195-6; Parker, 1959: 213; Wallace, 1996: 695.

¹⁹⁶⁴ Van der Watt (2010: 149) says that, "The frequent references to ἀληθής/ἀλήθεια (as contrast to ψεύστης, see also v. 44) in chap. 8 (vv. 14, 26, 32, 40, 45, 46; see also vv. 13 and 17 where it is used in a direct forensic context) give the witness and words of Jesus a positive ethical quality".

v.17: καὶ ἐν τῷ νόμῳ δὲ τῷ ἡμετέρῳ γέγραπται ὅτι δύο ἀνθρώπων ἡ μαρτυρία ἀληθοῦς ἐστίν.	ends with the utterance Jesus in vv. 12b and 19
v.18: ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ μαρτυρῶν περὶ ἑμαυτοῦ καὶ μαρτυρεῖ περὶ ἑμοῦ ὁ πέμψας με πατήρ.	(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 12b and 19) and <i>formula narrative</i> (v. 18)
v.19: Ἐλεγον οὖν αὐτῷ· ποῦ ἐστὶν ὁ πατήρ σου; ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς· οὔτε ἐμὲ οἴδατε οὔτε τὸν πατέρα μου· εἰ ἐμὲ ᾔδειτε, καὶ τὸν πατέρα μου ἂν ᾔδειτε.	
v.20: Ταῦτα τὰ ῥήματα ἐλάλησεν ἐν τῷ γαζοφυλακίῳ διδάσκων ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ· καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐπίασεν αὐτόν, ὅτι οὐπω ἐληλύθει ἡ ὥρα αὐτοῦ.	12a, 13a, 14a, 19a, 19b

Table 73: The dialogue of 8:12-20 within the narratorial framework

In the sixth slot, Jesus takes control of the conversation as he begins and ends the discussion (vv. 12 and v. 19b), and by placing a lengthy talk-unit at the center of the conversation (vv. 13-19).¹⁹⁶⁵ The boundary of the dialogic-slot is set between Jesus' revelatory pronouncement (v. 12) and his affirmative statement about his interlocutors' understanding (v. 19b).¹⁹⁶⁶ The Pharisees are not on par with Jesus as their voice is limited to a statement (v. 13) and a surprised question (v. 19a; cf. Motyer, 1997: 156).¹⁹⁶⁷ The narrator frames the slot (using Πάλιν, v. 12; cf. Bernard, 1929: 291) by connecting it with the previous dialogue (7:1-52) and ends (v. 20) by reference to Jesus' activity of teaching (διδάσκων), the location of the dialogue (ἐν τῷ γαζοφυλακίῳ ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ; cf. Wallace, 1996: 561),¹⁹⁶⁸ the inability of his opponents to arrest him (οὐδεὶς ἐπίασεν αὐτόν), and the reason for their inability (οὐπω ἐληλύθει ἡ ὥρα αὐτοῦ).¹⁹⁶⁹ The role of the narrator cannot be limited to a reporter of the utterances and events related to Jesus; but he is an involved narrator as he is engaged himself in the story world.¹⁹⁷⁰ From the above analysis, we can infer that the content of the dialogue revolves around the theme of Jesus' identity 'from above' and the Pharisaic lack of understanding of Jesus as they look at him from their limited perspective.

Now, let us see the way the content of the dialogue is formed within the narratorial framework of 8:12-20 (cf. Talbert, 1992: 152-3).¹⁹⁷¹ The talk-forms within the slot, as in the case of the

¹⁹⁶⁵ See Lindars, 1972: 313-9; Parker, 1959: 210-3; Bruce, 1983: 188-91; Westcott, 1958: 127-30; Lenski, 1934: 612; Keener, 2003: 738-42.

¹⁹⁶⁶ Gench (2007: 43) says that, "... in 8:12 Jesus embraces the image of light, stating unambiguously his significance as revealer, as the one through whom God's light shines, and the one who illumines the meaning and purpose of human life". Cf. Bennema, 2005: 99-105; Westcott, 1958: 127-30; Tenney, 1948: 143-6; Sanders and Mastin, 2004: 218-22; Milne, 1993: 127-8.

¹⁹⁶⁷ Neyrey (2007: 153) says that, "What matters is who speaks first and who has the last word, both of which cases belong to Jesus. He makes the claim that precipitates the conflict, and his last word reduces his opponent to silence. In terms of argumentative honor, Jesus succeeds masterfully".

¹⁹⁶⁸ The 'treasury' was situated between the court of the women and the inner court. A location is maintained by the lights blazing every night in the court of the women". Cf. Moloney, 1998: 269; Parker, 1959: 213.

¹⁹⁶⁹ See Barrett, 1978: 340; Painter, 1993: 299; Lenski, 1942: 609; Lindars, 1972: 319; Sanders and Mastin, 2004: 2; Köstenberger, 2004: 257.

¹⁹⁷⁰ Cf. Tolmie, 1999: 13-27; Powell, 1990: 35-57; Aarde, 2009: 381-418; Funk, 1988: 4-10; Green, 2003: 1-10.

¹⁹⁷¹ Neyrey (1988:40-2) has the opinion that, "In a number of important ways 8:21-30 stands in contrast with 8:12-20 and its themes, patterns, and argument. The form of 8:21-30, moreover, differs from the forensic procedure described in 8:12-20, for it exemplifies the typical Johannine pattern of misunderstanding-explanation". He (1988: 43) also says that, "John 8:31-59, which necessarily continues the

slots/episodes, overlap with each other.¹⁹⁷² Jesus uses talk-forms and devices like *self-revelation* (“Εγώ εἰμι” statement; v. 12a),¹⁹⁷³ *dualism* (τὸ φῶς and τῇ σκοτίᾳ; v. 12b; see Barrett, 1982: 98-115),¹⁹⁷⁴ *contrast* (v. 12b),¹⁹⁷⁵ *counter argumentation* (vv. 14-18; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 298),¹⁹⁷⁶ *validation* (v. 14a), *knowing-unknowing language* (v. 14b), and *enigmatic pronouncement* (vv. 14-18, 19b).¹⁹⁷⁷ His utterances also have elements of *agency talk* (vv. 14, 16, 18, 19b),¹⁹⁷⁸ *authoritative talk* (vv. 12, 14-18, 19b), *tradition talk* (vv. 15, 17; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 130), *legal talk* (vv. 15-16; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 254; Lincoln, 2000: 13),¹⁹⁷⁹ *ascension talk* (v. 14; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 27), *mysticism* (v. 19b),¹⁹⁸⁰ and *inter-textuality* (v. 17; cf. Robertson, 1932: 143).¹⁹⁸¹ On the other hand, the Pharisees use talk-forms like *accusation* (v. 13), *invalidation* (v. 13), and *surprise question* (v. 19a; cf. Motyer, 1997: 156). The narrator employs several literary devices, like *synonymous parallelism* (v. 16, 18), *antithetical parallelism* (v. 14, 15; cf. Greenstein,

of 8:21-30, states that Jesus speaks to the Jews ‘who had believed in him’, which links the audience in 8:31-59 with ‘the many who believed in him’ (8:30). Bultmann (1971: 247) brings 5:19-47, 7:15-25, and 8:13-20 together. He says that, “The *structure* of the composition is simple. The theme of 5:19-30 is the equality of Jesus’ activity as Judge with the activity of God; 5:31-47 and 7:15-24 discuss the rights of such a claim of Jesus, in other words the question of the μαρτυρία; 8:13-20 finally bring the themes of μαρτυρία and κρίσις together”.

¹⁹⁷² Dodd divides the dialogues of chap. 8:12-59 into three: *first*, a dialogue introduced by an oracular saying of Jesus (Theme: the nature and value of the evidence for the claims of Jesus; vv. 12-20); *second*, a dialogue consisting mainly of a discourse of Jesus interrupted by brief comments and questions of the ‘Jews’ (Theme: the challenge of Jesus to the Jewish leaders; vv. 21-30); and *third*, a closing dialogue (Theme: Abraham, his ‘seed’ and Christ. Interlocutors: Jesus and the ‘Jews’; vv. 31-59; cf. Dodd, 1960: 346). Dodd’s division of the material into three sections provide us with more comprehension about the slot-structure of vv. 12-59. Bennema (2005: 100; cf. Bernard, 1929: 291) divides the section into five: *first*, Jesus the light of the world (vv. 12-20); *second*, Jesus announces his departure (vv. 21-30); *third*, liberating truth (vv. 31-38); *fourth*, fathers and families (vv. 39-47); and *fifth*, Jesus’ supremacy over Abraham (vv. 48-59). Bennema’s division seems like an expansion of Dodd’s division of the discourse. Brown (1966: 342) says about the structure: “Our breakdown of 8:12-59 into three divisions follows the indications of the Gospel itself, which seems to indicate a break at 21 and 31. But when we probe into the individual divisions, we find that the sequence within them is far from simple and that often we are dealing doublets of other discourses”. For more details about the ‘form’ and ‘genre concerns’, refer Aune, 1986: 87-8; Greimas and Courtes, 1979: 121-2; Mulenbourg, 1993: 65-76; Davies, 1992: 67-109.

¹⁹⁷³ Bernard (1929: 2: 291) considers it as one of the great “I am’s” of the FG. Cf. Morris, 1995: 387; Brown, 1966: 343-4; Moloney, 1998: 266; Westcott, 1880: 128; Strachan, 1941: 207; Talbert, 1992: 152.

¹⁹⁷⁴ Resseguie (2001: 82; cf. Lindars, 1972: 285) is of the opinion that, “The progression on the various planes of point of view is from ‘obscurity to clarity, from darkness to light’” (cf. 8:12).

¹⁹⁷⁵ Bernard (1929: 293) says that, “The contrast between the Two Ways, of Darkness and of Light, is not peculiar to John, but it is a favourite topic in his gospel”. See, for “walking” in light or in darkness, 11:9; 12:35; 1 John 1:6-7.

¹⁹⁷⁶ Senior (1991: 23) says that, “The terms of the argument fit exactly into John’s theological perspective”.

¹⁹⁷⁷ Talbert (1992: 152) sees the following sequence in the dialogue: “there is a provocative statement by Jesus, followed by a Jewish response, to which Jesus gives a retort”.

¹⁹⁷⁸ Witherington (1995: 175) says that, “Jesus is eternal but not self-existent; he is dependent on the Father and, while on earth as his agent, in a subordinate role to him”.

¹⁹⁷⁹ Brant (2004: 116; cf. Elam, 1980: 177; Brodie, 1993: 324; Bultmann, 1971: 282-4; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 204; Neyrey, 2009: 228-30; Witherington, 1995: 175; Keener, 2003: 1: 739; Loader, 1997: 468-9) is of the opinion that, “If his [i.e., Jesus’] speeches are considered as movements in dramatic discourse, they are simply the artifice of living speech. In contrast, to their role in poetry, where they create logical or conceptual balance, speeches that follow an antithetical pattern enact the conflict that constitutes the drama and arouse strong opposing reactions from those with whom the speaker interacts”.

¹⁹⁸⁰ For more details about these forms, refer to Morris, 1995: 387-94; Bernard, 1929: 291-8; Moloney, 1998: 266-8; Köstenberger, 2004: 253; Brown, 1966: 340-5; Milne, 1993: 127-30.

¹⁹⁸¹ Bultmann (1971: 282) considers Jesus’ utterance in v. 17 as a *satirical response*.

1982: 41-70), *irony* (v. 19, 20; cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 150; Resseguie, 2005: 71),¹⁹⁸² *misunderstanding-clarification formula* (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 297; Senior, 1991: *symbolism* (cf. Koester, 1995: 1-31; Van der Watt, 2000: 1-24),¹⁹⁸⁴ and *challenge and format*, in order to persuade his audience (see Table 74). The above mentioned talk-for devices are helpful in fostering a conflict and characterisation within the literary framework. According to Moloney (1978: 124), “The conflict between Jesus and his opponents develops in John 8 unfolds . . . John brings the opposition between Jesus and the Jews to an open conflict. The use of the forms and the ways of speech are often resultant to conflict and characterisation (cf. Genette, 1980: 182-5). Whereas Jesus’ involvement in the dialogue is delineated by narrative-formulas like *spoke/saying* (ἐλάλησεν, v. 12), *answered and said* (ἀπεκρίθη καὶ εἶπεν, v. 14), and *answered* (ἀπεκρίθη, v. 19b; cf. Lindars, 1981/1992: 113-82), the Pharisaic involvement is qualified by the formula *said* (εἶπον/ἔλεγον; vv. 13, 19a; cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 135-48).¹⁹⁸ The above mentioned elements interact within the narratorial framework in order to present the conflict convincingly to the reader.

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Self-revelatory statement, dualism, contrasting statement	Jesus is the light of the world. Whoever follows him will never walk in darkness but will have the life.
Pharisees	Accusation, invalidation	Jesus is testifying on his own behalf; his testimony is not valid.
Jesus	Counter argumentation, validation, contrast, knowing-unknowing conflict, agency talk, authoritative talk, tradition-talk, intertextuality, legal talk, mystic talk, ascension talk	Even if Jesus testifies on his own behalf his testimony is valid because he knows where he comes from and where he is going, but the Pharisees do not know where he comes from or where he is going. The Pharisees judge by human standards; Jesus judges no one. Yet even if he does judge, his judgment is valid; for it is not he alone who judges but he and the Father who sent him. In their

¹⁹⁸² Duke (1985: 65) says that, “This Gospel reveals their [i.e., of the opponents of Jesus] blindness again and again having Jesus say precisely this: you do not know my Father (8:19; cf. 8:55; 15:21; 16:3; 17:25)”. Duke further says that, “They constantly want to arrest him (7:30, 32, 44; 8:20; 10:39), take up stones against him (10:31; 11:8), and seek to kill him (5:18; 7:1, 25; 8:37, 40; 11:53); but always they are powerless to do it, so that in command, so much does his hour alone determine the time and the manner of his death”.

¹⁹⁸³ Jesus makes a statement at v. 12, Pharisees do not understand that (v. 13), and hence he clarifies (v. 14). Again, Jesus’ clarification (vv. 14-18) creates misunderstanding among the Pharisees (v. 19a), and he further clarifies (v. 19b).

¹⁹⁸⁴ Tasker (1960: 113) says about Jesus’ self-revelation, “Such a revelation at this time was in keeping with the symbolism of the festival”. Westcott (1880: 127) says that, “The opinions about Jesus were divided. The Pharisees were blinded by their prejudices. Jesus therefore traces back doubt and unbelief to want of inner sympathy with him. At the same time (cf. *again*, 7:37) the symbol of the festival was interpreted”.

¹⁹⁸⁵ Brant (2004: 141) says that, “The formal *agōn* of the tragedies, particularly those of Euripides, which by convention more than do Sophocles and Aeschylus, typically begins with a provocative act or proposal. The plaintiff responds in a long speech that moves through a series of legal, logical, or moral arguments”. Brant (2004: 140) defines *agōn* as follows, “The conflict of the Fourth Gospel, with their accusation of legal testimonies, scrutiny of witnesses, and rendering of judgment, contain forensic language apropos of a trial”.

¹⁹⁸⁶ See the descriptions by Haenchen, 1984: 2: 26-7. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 188-91; Bennema, 2005: 99-105; Tebbel, 1984: 143-6; Köstenberger, 2004: 253-7; Carson, 1991: 337-41; Lenski, 1942: 592-609.

		was written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. Jesus testifies on his own behalf, and the Father who sent him testifies on his behalf.
Pharisees	Surprise question	Where is Jesus' Father?
Jesus	Enigmatic pronouncement, mystic talk	The Pharisees know neither Jesus nor his Father. If they knew him, they would know his Father also.

Table 74: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 8:12-20

Neyrey (2007: 153; cf. Lindars, 1981/1992: 113-82) observes that, "One may profitably read this narrative in terms of several *challenge-riposte* exchanges. First, *claim* ('I am the light of the world', 8:12), *challenge* ('Your testimony is not valid', 8:13), and *riposte* ('My testimony is valid', 8:14). Then again *claim* ('My judgment is valid', 8:16), *challenge* ('Where is your father?', 8:19a), and *riposte* ('You know neither me nor my Father', 8:19b)".¹⁹⁸⁷ Jesus' frequent reference about the Father generates misunderstanding among the Jews and that leads them to ask a question (v. 19a; cf. Motyer, 1997: 156). Jesus' sharp criticism against their 'unknowing' nature is brought out in the formulaic way: "knowing the Father means knowing the Son himself" (cf. v. 19b). The forensic trend of the episode is sustained in 8:12-20 through the recurring usage of μαρτυρία terminologies (vv. 13 [twice], 14 [twice], 17, 18 [twice]), κρίνω terminologies (vv. 15 [twice], 16 [twice]), μόνος terminologies (vv. 16, 17), and ἀληθεια terminologies (vv. 13, 14, 16, 17; cf. Loader, 1997: 474-6). In v. 20, readers notice the way narrator suggests an appropriate *closure* for the entire section (cf. Baldick, 1990: 38).¹⁹⁸⁸ Though there are several talk-forms and devices present within the slot, the overarching trend of it is *challenge and riposte* and *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* formulas.¹⁹⁸⁹ The plot structure¹⁹⁹⁰ of the episode develops from a Pharisaic dialogue at the rear-of-stage (i.e., while Jesus is absent; 7:45-52) to a dialogue between Jesus and the Pharisees at the front-of-stage (8:12-20).

¹⁹⁸⁷ Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 156) say about 8:12 as follows: "This verse simply continues the narration from 7:52. Significantly, it marks a second high point in Jesus' teaching in the Temple, presenting another aspect of self-revelation". Pryor (1992: 36) opines that, "With the great cry 'I am the light of the world' the dialogue/controversy with the Jews enters a new stage". Cf. Morris, 1995: 387-90; Tasker, 1960: 113; Moloney, 1998: 266-8.

¹⁹⁸⁸ Strachan (1941: 208) says that, "The note of place, *These words spake he in the treasury* would indicate that the Evangelist is making use of some definite tradition of a dialogue between Jesus and the Pharisees, and interpreting it in his own idiom". Cf. Moloney, 1998: 269; Bernard, 1929: 298; Brown, 1966: 1: 342; Westcott, 1880: 129-30.

¹⁹⁸⁹ Thatcher (2001: 268-75) observes a *riddle-confusion-answer* format within the slot. Talbert (1992: 152-3; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 70) sees a *statement-response-retort* format within it. Keener (2003: 1: 740) states about the 'claim' and 'counter claim' sequence of the slot.

¹⁹⁹⁰ Windisch (1993: 47; cf. Muilenberg, 1993: 65-76) says that, "Three controversy scenes are loosely juxtaposed (8:12-20; 8:21-30; 8:31-59). A clearly evident context and progression is lacking. It is as if the evangelist had conceived new individual scenes one after another and had placed them together according to external criteria". Cf. Templeton, 1999: 53-65; Aarde, 2009: 381-418; Culpepper, 1983: 93; Stibbe, 1994: 32-53; Chatman, 1978: 26, 30-1; De Boer, 1992: 35-48.

The function of the dialogue in 8:12-20 can be described as follows (cf. Aune, 1986: 89-1993: 50-88).¹⁹⁹¹ As in the case of the previous slots/episodes, here too the analeptic and proleptic interconnection is well-stated (cf. Tolmie, 1999: 88-9, 91-2). Neyrey (1988: Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 189-96) comments that, "John 8:12-20 is linked with John 7 not in terms of Jesus' claims to be the replacement of the Feast of Tabernacles. It is also formally like chap. 7 according to an elaborate forensic procedure against Jesus".¹⁹⁹² This observation by Neyrey can be placed at the forefront of our discussion in order to link 7:1-52 with 8:12-20. 8:12-20 is not only connected to the previous narratives but also to the succeeding passages. The forensic procedures of John come to their climax in chapters 18-19 (cf. vv. 21-59; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 48-79; Chatman, 1978: 64).¹⁹⁹³ A dualistic hint is brought out through the place of Jesus, as "the light of the world", in contrast to those who do not follow the light (i.e., those who "walk in darkness"; cf. Senior, 1991: 23; Gench, 2007: 43-4).¹⁹⁹⁴ Jesus' exclusive statement that he is the light of the world prompts the Jews to react against the claim in their own way (v. 13). In vv. 14-15, Jesus clearly distinguishes his identity from that of his interlocutors by pointing out fundamental differences between them: *first*, Jesus knows from where he has come and where he is going; but the Jews know neither where Jesus came from nor where he is going; and *second*, the Jews judge by human standards; but Jesus judges no one (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 5-31; Neyrey, 1988: 228-30).¹⁹⁹⁵ In vv. 17-18, Jesus makes a reference to the Law of Moses in order to establish the authentication of his comparison (cf. Talbert, 1992: 152-3; Keener, 2003: 1: 741-2).¹⁹⁹⁶ On the basis of the above delineation, a reader can understand the way John interprets the Christ as the light of the world to divide between the Johannine community and the Jewish community (cf. Neyrey, 1989: 71-107). Here the narrator employs dialogue as a fundamental tool in order to describe the conflicts between the two communities.

¹⁹⁹¹ Within 8:12-59 there are layers of narrations intertwined; especially a shift is noticeable between 8:12-30.

¹⁹⁹² Moloney (1998: 265) says that, "Among the various interlocutors, on two earlier occasions during the Feast of Tabernacles Jesus has debated with 'the Jews' and the Pharisees (7:14-24, 45-52). The only two groups mentioned in 8:12-30 are the Pharisees (v. 13) and 'the Jews' (v. 22)".

¹⁹⁹³ Culpepper (1983: 93) says that, "Many of the themes and arguments of the previous chapters are repeated. A central issue is paternity". Morris (1995: 386) says that, "The discussion is triggered off by Jesus' statement that he is 'the light of the world'. The first reaction of his enemies is to attack the witness borne to him. Then the discussion goes on to the fate of dying in sins (vv. 21-24), the relationship between the Father and the Son (vv. 25-30), the fact that the opponents of Jesus are slaves to sin (vv. 31-47). It concludes with a section on the glory of the Father and the Son (vv. 48-59). It thus covers a very wide range". Resseguie (2005: 188) states that the anticipated allusion to the 'hour' is enlarged in v. 20 from 2:4 and 7:30.

¹⁹⁹⁴ Strachan (1941: 206) opines that, "Light in Hebrew thought is also regarded as a synonym for 'salvific accompaniments of joy and healing'. For more details about the interpretation of light in Hebrew and Hellenistic religion, refer to Strachan, 1941: 205-8.

¹⁹⁹⁵ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 294) says that, "He [Jesus] explains that his testimony (that he is the light of the world) is true and valid, even though he bears this witness to himself, by referring to his origin and destination". Neyrey, 1988: 189; Neyrey, 2007: 153; Tenney, 1948: 144-5; Lindars, 1972: 317; Cory, 1997: 100-1.

¹⁹⁹⁶ Pryor (1992: 37) says that, "It is also in chap. 8 that the fundamental divide between Jesus and the Jews is progressively intensified, borne along by the Jews' incapacity to understand him, an incapacity which is a spiritual state of being separated from the Father".

In the dialogue, symbolic and figurative languages are employed in order to establish the brilliance of the narrator (cf. v. 12; see Bartholomä, 2010: 141).¹⁹⁹⁷ Jesus' identity is highlighted in relation to his Father, and along the way thematic development is established (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 26-7; Van der Watt, 2007: 15). Jesus' talk is on an increase (see v. 12b and vv. 14-18) whereas his interlocutors' talk is on a decrease (sees v. 13 and v. 19a; cf. Motyer, 1997: 156).¹⁹⁹⁸ Jesus is demonstrated as a 'genuine and brave speaker', a sharp critique, and a pun-creator all through the slot (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 5-31). His interlocutors are pictured as a confused community, misunderstanding folks, and interrogators about the paternity/identity of Jesus.¹⁹⁹⁹ The dialogue does not develop in parallel form as the protagonist and the antagonists are representing two extremely opposite communities and worldviews (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 189-96). Jesus exposes his interlocutors' 'folly' character in comparison to his 'from above' origin. Thus antithetical progression and the resultant conflict and characterisation are at the centre of the dialogue (cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 204).²⁰⁰⁰ Jesus maintains his status in relation to the Father by stating that 'knowing him is equal to knowing the Father' and vice versa.²⁰⁰¹ This revelation is one of the important aspects of the dialogue and through which Jesus establishes his strong bond with the Father. The use of vilification as a rhetorical strategy serves here to interlock the narrative with the reader (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 3-38, 108-13).²⁰⁰² According to Van der Watt (2010: 157), "The implication for the reader is: With whom do you want to associate yourself and with whom do you want to dissociate yourself? Vilification encourages positive choices by showing the negative aspects of what should not be chosen".²⁰⁰³ This vilificatory aspect of the narrative in 8:12-20 is both performative and dramatic²⁰⁰⁴ in its function (cf. Van der Watt, 2010: 139-167).

¹⁹⁹⁷ Brown (1966: 344) offers the opinion that, "In the Gospel scene Jesus stands in this same Court of the Women and proclaims that he is the light, not only of Jerusalem but of the whole world. Previously we have heard Jesus speaks of water that is life-giving and of bread that is life-giving; now he speaks of life-giving light". Cf. Temple, 1952: 134-6; Parker, 1959: 209-10; Barrett, 1978: 333-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 127-8.

¹⁹⁹⁸ Quast (1991/1996: 70) says that, "Jesus counters that he is not alone; his Father also testifies on his behalf. Even his self-testimony is valid because his origin and mission make his testimony the same as that of his Father (John 8:14-18)". See Parker, 1959: 209-14; Bruce, 1983: 188-91; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 41-4; Carson, 1991: 337-41.

¹⁹⁹⁹ Cf. Keener, 2003: 739-42; Strachan, 1941: 205-8; Morris, 1995: 387-94.

²⁰⁰⁰ Brant (2004: 143; cf. Neyrey, 1996: 107-24) says that, "The first *agōn* (8:12-20) begins with a provocative proposal in which Jesus claims, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life' (8:12)".

²⁰⁰¹ Keener (2003: 742) says that, "As general in the biblical tradition and in John in particular (cf. 10:4, 14; on the knowledge of God), 'knowing God' implies 'no theoretical knowledge of God but spiritual communion with him'". Cf. Temple, 1952: 135-6; Neyrey, 2007: 153; Lenski, 1942: 598-600; Westcott, 1958: 129.

²⁰⁰² Davies (1992: 25) views the Gospel as a whole as: "The narrative is dominated by dialogue and monologue. There are few examples of indirect speech (e.g., 4:47, 51-52; 12:12, 29; 13:29; 18:14, 27; 20:18; 21:23) and some of these recap what had already been given in direct speech (e.g., 18:14, 27; 20:18)". All these dialogues and monologues in their direct and indirect speech forms persuade the reader. Cf. Court, 1997: 73-86; Black, 2001: 1-22; Lategan, 2009: 457-84; Funk, 1988: 11-8; Moore, 1989: 71-107.

²⁰⁰³ Van der Watt (2010: 157; cf. Du Toit, 1994: 403-12; Lausberg, 1960/1998: 55, 61, 131-8, 205-6, 542) says that, "Vilification plays an important role in this section, supporting the thrust in the narrative to convince the (implicit) reader to accept Jesus and reject the alternative. Rhetorically this technique was aimed at discrediting people by dishonouring them. In this way it encourages disassociation by the reader with particular people".

²⁰⁰⁴ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 204; cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 346; Elam, 1980: 208-10) says that, "... the motif of conflict and the polemical tone, so conspicuous in John 7-8, highlight the *dramatic unity* of this episode". For more details about the

9.2.7. Slot Seven (8:21-59)²⁰⁰⁵

The seventh slot (8:21-59) as a whole can be sub-divided into two sub-slots (i.e., vv. 21-30 and 31-59).²⁰⁰⁶ While v. 30 narrates that “as he was saying these things, many believed in him” begins with another narratorial comment that “then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him” (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 27-8; Windisch, 1993: 47). A reader can notice the way a setting-shift is introduced from the general group of the Jews (in vv. 21-30)²⁰⁰⁷ to the Jews who had believed in Jesus (in vv. 31-59). Thus one can view the way the dialogue shifts ‘general’ group of people to a ‘specific’ group of people.

9.2.7.1. Sub-Slot One (8:21-30)²⁰⁰⁸

The narratorial note in v. 20 and the use of the expression πάλιν at the beginning of v. 21 narratorial break between vv. 12-20 and vv. 21-59. The change of interlocutors from the Pharisees in vv. 12-20 (cf. vv. 13a, 19a) to the Jews in vv. 21-59 (cf. vv. 22a, 31a, 48a, 59) introduces a new setting for the seventh slot (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87-120). The first sub-slot (8:21-30)²⁰⁰⁹ is composed of four talk-units of Jesus (vv. 21, 23-24, 25b-26, 28-29) and two talk-units of the Jews (vv. 22, 25a). *First*, as in the case of the previous slot (cf. v. 12), here too the beginning of the dialogue is Jesus himself (v. 21; cf. v. 12; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 197-8; Talbot, 1984: 153-4).²⁰¹⁰ Moloney (1998: 270; cf. Robertson, 1932: 145) says that, “The dialogue is resumed by the use of the expression ‘again’ (πάλιν). In v. 21 Jesus brings to the fore his origin and the issue providing background to vv. 12-20. He tells his opponents he is going to a destiny beyond their reach”.²⁰¹¹ Jesus, the *I am*, talks about his *departure* or “going away” from this world.

dramatic development, refer to Brant, 2004: 116; Tan, 1993: 26-47; Bowles, 2010: 7-30; Baldick, 1990: 56-1993: 103-13.

²⁰⁰⁵ Windisch (1993: 47) says that, “Three controversy scenes are loosely juxtaposed (8:12-20; 8:21-30; 8:31-59) in a clearly evident context and progression is lacking”. While 8:12-20 can be considered as a separate slot, 8:21-30 and 8:31-59 are forming a single slot with the help of the narratorial linkage in vv. 30 and 31.

²⁰⁰⁶ Moloney (1998: 275) opines that: “Jesus continues to speak to ‘the Jews’ (v. 31) but the narrative demarcates the many who believed in him (v. 30: πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν) and the group now described as ‘the Jews who believed in him’ (v. 31: τοῖς πεπιστευκότας αὐτῷ Ἰουδαίους) cannot be the same. The change in the tense from aorist (v. 30) to perfect (v. 31), and the change in syntax from ἐπίστευσαν εἰς (v. 30) to πιστεύουσιν (v. 31) indicate that an ongoing section of ‘the Jews’ have the beginnings of belief in Jesus but still have a way to go (cf. 2:23-25)”.

²⁰⁰⁷ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 203; cf. Motyer, 1997: 153) considers 8:21-30 as a section that deals with the destination and identity of Jesus”.

²⁰⁰⁸ For Dodd (1960: 346), 8:21-30 is the sixth dialogue, consisting mainly of a discourse of Jesus interrupting comments and questions of the ‘Jews’. Theme of the section: “The challenge of Jesus to the Jewish leaders”

²⁰⁰⁹ Bernard (1929: 298; cf. Talbert, 1992: 153-4) is of the opinion that, “The occasion of the discourse which is not mentioned. It may be a continuation of what precedes, and if so οὖν may be causative, having reference to the fact that Jesus had not been arrested (v. 20; cf. 7:33). But because οὖν is used as a mere conjunction, and marks (as in v. 12) the beginning of a new discourse”.

²⁰¹⁰ Cory (1997: 106) says that, “. . . the Tabernacles discourse portrays Jesus actually becoming the judge and accusers at the conclusion of the story (John 8:21-30, 31-58)”.

²⁰¹¹ For more details about the use of *transitional conjunctions*, refer to Wallace, 1996: 674. Also see Paulsen, 2000: 300-1; Bartholomä, 2010: 148-9.

Ἐγὼ ὑπάγω, v. 21a) and also about his interlocutors' inability to go there (i.e., ὅπου ἐγὼ ὑπάγω ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν, v. 21b; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 96-103; Von Wahlde, 1984: 578).²⁰¹² Jesus' statement "you will die in your sins" (cf. v. 21b)²⁰¹³ makes more sense as he is talking in general with the Jews (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 27).²⁰¹⁴ *Second*, the misunderstanding nature of the Jews is once again emphasised through their first question at v. 22 (Μήτι ἀποκτενεῖ ἑαυτόν;).²⁰¹⁵ Their question is based on Jesus' statement, "where I am going, you cannot come" ("Ὁπου ἐγὼ ὑπάγω ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν, v. 21; cf. v. 22; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 70).²⁰¹⁶ *Third*, Jesus' clarification in response to their misunderstanding is marked with a *cosmological dualism*, "the world from above" (i.e., Jesus' world) versus "the world from below" (i.e., his interlocutors' world; cf. Loader, 1997: 469; Keener, 2003: 1: 743).²⁰¹⁷ Whereas "die in sins" (ἀποθανεῖσθε ἐν ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις, v. 24b) is paralleled with identification with the world from below, the response to "believe that I am he" (πιστεύετε ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμὶ, v. 24b) is paralleled with identification with the world from above (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 348; Keener, 2003: 1: 744; see Table 75).²⁰¹⁸

John 8:21-30	Overview
<p>v.21: Εἶπεν οὖν πάλιν αὐτοῖς· ἐγὼ ὑπάγω καὶ ζητήσετέ με, καὶ ἐν τῇ ἁμαρτίᾳ ὑμῶν ἀποθανεῖσθε· ὅπου ἐγὼ ὑπάγω ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν.</p> <p>v.22: ἔλεγον οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι· μήτι ἀποκτενεῖ ἑαυτόν, ὅτι λέγει· ὅπου ἐγὼ ὑπάγω ὑμεῖς οὐ δύνασθε ἐλθεῖν;</p> <p>v.23: καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ὑμεῖς ἐκ τῶν κάτω ἐστέ, ἐγὼ ἐκ τῶν ἄνω εἰμὶ· ὑμεῖς ἐκ τοῦτου τοῦ κόσμου ἐστέ, ἐγὼ οὐκ εἰμὶ ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου τοῦτου.</p> <p>v.24: εἶπον οὖν ὑμῖν ὅτι ἀποθανεῖσθε ἐν ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις ὑμῶν· ἂν γὰρ μὴ πιστεύετε ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι, ἀποθανεῖσθε ἐν ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις ὑμῶν.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 21-30 is comprised of six utterance units (vv. 21b, 22b, 23b-24, 25a, 25b-26, 28b-29); out of the three utterance units four are of Jesus (vv. 21b, 23b-24, 25b-26, 28b-29) and two are of the Jews (vv. 22b, 25a);</p> <p>(2) Jesus initiates (v. 21) and concludes (vv. 25b-26, 28b-29) the dialogue;</p>

²⁰¹² According to Vincent (1887/1969: 169), "*Withdraw myself* from you; this sense being emphasised by the succeeding words, *ye shall seek me*". Cf. Dods, 1967: 774; Köstenberger, 2004: 257-8; Keener, 2003: 743; Robertson, 1932: 145; Strachan, 1941: 208-9; Bernard, 1929: 298-9; Dods, 1967: 774; Lenski, 1942: 610-1.

²⁰¹³ Quast (1991/1996: 70) thinks that, "The phrase 'dying in your sins', found nowhere else in John, is used three times (John 8:21, 24, 24) to stress the bleak state of those who do not believe in Jesus".

²⁰¹⁴ Jesus' talk here is in a general set up as he mainly addresses the unbelieving Jews. From them only a group of 'believing' emerges later on (cf. v. 30).

²⁰¹⁵ As Vincent (1887/1969: 169) interprets this, "The mockery in these words is alike subtle and bitter. The interrogative particle, *μήτι*, signifies *surely He will not by any chance* kill Himself; and the sense of the whole clause is, He will not surely go where we cannot reach Him . . ."

²⁰¹⁶ Strachan (1941: 209) believes that, "In v. 22, the taunt Will he kill himself? May be a mocking suggestion that Jesus sought to imitate the example of Samson (Jud 16:28-30) or the hero Razis (2 Mac 14:37 onward), both of whom committed suicide when their enemies were too strong for them, and were acclaimed as national heroes". Cf. Bernard, 1929: 298-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 257-8; Robertson, 1932: 145; Dods, 1967: 774-5; Moloney, 1998: 270; Bruce, 1983: 191-2.

²⁰¹⁷ Robertson (1932: 145; cf. Browning, 1996/2004: 105) says that, "The contrast is complete in origin and character, already stated in 3:31, and calculated to intensify their anger". Köstenberger (2004: 258) states that, "Whereas in Judaism a certain mystery attached to the division between what is above and what is below (*m. Hag* 2.1), and Gnostic thought assigned both knowledge (Gos. Truth 22:3-4) and salvation to the realm 'above' (25:35-26:1; 35:1-2), the present passage distinguishes between 'above' as the realm of God and 'below' as that of humanity". The double use of the article τῶν indicates more than a general sentiment as to origins; heaven and hell are implied (cf. Wallace, 1996: 232). Cf. Vincent, 1887/1969: 170; Bernard, 1929: 299-300; Bruce, 1983: 192-3; Neyrey, 2007: 156; Brown, 1966: 347; Köstenberger, 2004: 258-9.

²⁰¹⁸ Vincent (1887/1969: 170) says that, "*He* is inserted in the versions and is not in the text. By retaining it, we read, *I am the Messiah*. But the words are rather the solemn expression of His absolute divine being, as in v. 58: 'If ye believe not that *I am*'".

v.25: ἔλεγον οὖν αὐτῷ· σὺ τίς εἶ; εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· τὴν ἀρχὴν ὃ τι καὶ λαλῶ ὑμῖν;	(3) The utterance units of Jesus in vv. 26 and vv. 28b-29 with a narratorialia between them (v. 27: showing the misunderstanding of Jesus' interlocutors show the continuous but implicit development of the dialogue;
v.26: πολλὰ ἔχω περὶ ὑμῶν λαλεῖν καὶ κρίνειν, ἀλλ' ὁ πέμψας με ἀληθὴς ἐστίν, καὶ γὰρ ἃ ἤκουσα παρ' αὐτοῦ ταῦτα λαλῶ εἰς τὸν κόσμον.	
v.27: οὐκ ἔγνωσαν ὅτι τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῖς ἔλεγεν.	
v.28: εἶπεν οὖν [αὐτοῖς] ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ὅταν ὑψώσῃτε τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου, τότε γνώσεσθε ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι, καὶ ἅπ' ἐμαυτοῦ ποιῶ οὐδέν, ἀλλὰ καθὼς ἐδίδαξέν με ὁ πατήρ ταῦτα λαλῶ.	(4) The narratives of the episode are <i>narrative</i> (vv. 27, 30) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 21a, 22a, 23a, 25a, 28a).
v.29: καὶ ὁ πέμψας με μετ' ἐμοῦ ἐστίν· οὐκ ἀφῆκέν με μόνον, ὅτι ἐγὼ τὰ ἀρεστὰ αὐτῷ ποιῶ πάντοτε.	
v.30: Ταῦτα αὐτοῦ λαλοῦντος πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν.	

Table 75: The dialogue of 8:21-30 within the narratorial framework

Fourth, whereas, in the previous slot, Jesus' interlocutors inquire about the location of his Father ("Where is your Father?", Ποῦ ἐστὶν ὁ πατήρ σου; v. 19a),²⁰¹⁹ here the question is about his own identity ("Who are you?", Σὺ τίς εἶ; v. 25a; cf. Moloney, 1998: 271; Morris, 1995: 100).²⁰²⁰ *Fifth*, Jesus' response to their question begins with a counter-question, "Why do I speak to you at all?" (Τὴν ἀρχὴν ὃ τι καὶ λαλῶ ὑμῖν, v. 25b; cf. Lindars, 1992: 114; Von Wahlde, 1992: 80).²⁰²¹ The Jewish *unknowing* about 'who Jesus is?' is contrasted with Jesus' "I have much to tell you and much to condemn" (πολλὰ ἔχω περὶ ὑμῶν λαλεῖν καὶ κρίνειν, v. 25b; cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 150).²⁰²² Jesus further states concerning the truthfulness of his Father's mission of declaring about the Father to the world (v. 26b; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 28).²⁰²³ The Jews' misunderstanding and silent natures of the Jews prompt Jesus to clarify other things (cf. v. 29). He says that the lifting up of the Son of Man is closely connected to their realisation that Jesus is (v. 28a; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 349; Dodd, 1960: 241-9).²⁰²⁴ In the final statements, Jesus emphasises his connection with the Father who sent him to this world (vv. 28b-29; cf. 1993: 301; see Table 75).²⁰²⁵ The narrator concludes the first sub-slot by stating that, "After saying these things, many believed in him" (v. 30; cf. Dodd, 1960: 353; Witherington, 1995: 175).

²⁰¹⁹ Bultmann (1971: 348) says that, "The content of faith is indicated simply by ἐγὼ εἰμι; it sounds, and is in fact, sound, mysterious, for it raises the question, Σὺ τίς εἶ; that is to say, they have failed to understand who he is".

²⁰²⁰ Jesus' interlocutors' misunderstood position is reflected through their questions about the location of his Father and about the identity of Jesus.

²⁰²¹ Dods (1967: 775) says: "To this Jesus replies: Τὴν ἀρχὴν ὃ τι καὶ λαλῶ ὑμῖν. These words are rendered 'Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning'; and in R.V., 'Even that which I have also spoken from the beginning. The Greek Fathers understood τὴν ἀρχὴν as equivalent to ὅλως, a meaning it frequently has, and they interpret the clause as an exclamation, 'That I should even speak to you at all!' Also see Vincent, 1887/1969: 171-2; Parker, 1959: 216-7; Robertson, 1932: 146-7; Dods, 1967: 775; Brown, 1966: 347-8.

²⁰²² Painter (1993: 301; cf. Witherington, 1995: 175) says that, "The dialogue continues with the Jews asking Jesus, 'Where is your Father?' There is certainly no indication that the Jews understood the ἐγὼ εἰμι as a claim to divine status".

²⁰²³ Robertson (1932: 147) says that, "Whatever they think of Jesus the Father who sent him is true (ἀλλὰ ἀποκρίσας) cannot evade responsibility for the message heard. So Jesus goes on speaking it from the Father". Cf. Brown, 1966: 347-8; Vincent, 1887/1969: 171-2; Bernard, 1929: 302-3; Köstenberger, 2004: 260; Temple, 1952: 139-40.

²⁰²⁴ Robertson (1932: 147; cf. Bartholomä, 2010: 151) says that, "Indefinite temporal clause with ὅταν and the first aorist active subjunctive of ὑψώω, to lift up (Koiné verb from ὑψός, height), used several times in the Cross of Christ (3:14; 8:28; 12:32, 34)". He (1932: 148) says further, "The incarnation brought separation from the Father in one sense, but in essence there is complete harmony and fellowship as he had already said (8:1-2) expand in 17:21-26". Cf. Dods, 1967: 776; Brown, 1966: 348; Robertson, 1932: 147-8; Lenski, 1942: 620-6.

²⁰²⁵ Smith (1999: 184) considers verse 29 as a typical Johannine *embellishment*.

Thus the content of the dialogue is built by way of a contrast: the Jews' *unknowing* of the identity and the destination of Jesus versus his *knowing* of their identity and destination.

The overarching format of the dialogue can be identified in the following way. The characterial utterances include the following tenets:²⁰²⁶ *first*, Jesus uses talk-forms like *ascension statement* (v. 21b), *prolepses* (vv. 21, 28a; cf. Robertson, 1932: 146), *can-cannot contrast* (v. 21), *I-you contrast* (v. 23),²⁰²⁷ *belief statement* (v. 24), *question* (v. 25b), *agency talk* (vv. 26b, 29),²⁰²⁸ *mission statement* (v. 26), and *elusive/cryptic language* (vv. 28-29);²⁰²⁹ and *second*, his interlocutors use forms like *misunderstanding* (vv. 22b, 25a; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 347; Bartholomä, 2010: 149), *questions* (vv. 22, 25a),²⁰³⁰ and a *quote* (v. 22b; see Table 76).²⁰³¹ The literary devices used in the talk-units, like *antithetical parallelism* (v. 23),²⁰³² *irony* (v. 22; cf. Duke, 1985: 85-6; Stibbe, 1993: 101), *I am statements* (vv. 21, 24, 28; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 155; Strachan, 1941: 208-9),²⁰³³ *conditional statement* (v. 24; cf. Painter, 1993: 301), *questions* (vv. 22, 25; cf. Robertson, 1932: 145-6), *double meaning* (v. 28a; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 70; Resseguie, 2005: 188, 253), and *doublets* (vv. 21-22), maintain the literary quality of the pericope (see Table 76). Moreover, while Neyrey (2007: 154-5) observes a *chiasmic structure*²⁰³⁴ within the sub-slot, Brown sees the whole section within an *inclusion*. According to Brown (1966: 347), "The opening rubric of this section is very much like that of the previous section. In the previous division we saw an inclusion in the 'spoke . . . spoke' of vv. 12 and 20; there is also an inclusion between 21 and 30, but it is not as smooth: 'said . . . was speaking'". The *pure narratives* (vv. 27, 30)²⁰³⁵ and the *formula narratives* (vv. 21a, 22a, 23a, 25a, 25b, 28a) of the slot help the dialogue to progress reader-friendly.

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Ascension statement, prolepsis, can-cannot contrast	Jesus is going away, and his opponents search for him, but they will die in their sin. Where Jesus is going, they cannot come
Jews	Misunderstanding, question, doublet,	Is Jesus going to kill himself? Is that what he

²⁰²⁶ Utterance forms are not fixed categories; rather the forms overlap each other within the talk units.

²⁰²⁷ Keener (2003: 1: 744) says, "The ambiguity of Jesus' language ("ἐγὼ εἰμι" signifying "I am he" or "I am") fits the Gospel's pattern of double entendres inviting misunderstanding from those disinclined to persevere". Cf. Westcott, 1880: 130; Brown, 1966: 347; Köstenberger, 2004: 258-9; Moloney, 1998: 270-1.

²⁰²⁸ Lindars (1992: 115) says that, "... Jesus is God's agent, and as such he has a special relationship with God, which corresponds with the father/son relationship commonly employed in the statements about Jesus".

²⁰²⁹ Jesus' language is elusive/cryptic on several grounds, especially when he talks about 'union with God'. Moloney (1998: 272) says that, "Jesus fulfills, universalises, and transcends the symbols and expectations of Tabernacles because of his union with God (8:28-29)".

²⁰³⁰ About the question of the Jews at v. 22, Robertson (1932: 145; cf. Vincent, 1969: 169; Moloney, 1998: 273) says that, "Negative answer formally expected, but there is a manifest sneer in the query".

²⁰³¹ While responding to Jesus' utterance (v. 21b) the Jews quote Jesus' own statement (cf. v. 22b). Cf. Dods, 1967: 774-6; Bernard, 1929: 298-304; Morris, 1995: 395-402; Vincent, 1969: 169-72.

²⁰³² Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 258-9; Morris, 1995: 396-7; Moloney, 1998: 270-2; Dods, 1967: 775.

²⁰³³ Stibbe (1993: 100) says that, "Of critical importance are the absolute and predicative uses of the divine name, *egō eimi*". Cf. Dods, 1967: 775; Morris, 1995: 401; Robertson, 1932: 144-8; Moloney, 1998: 273.

²⁰³⁴ The *chiasm* develops as follows: *first*, Topic: A, "I am going away and you will search for me.; B, but you will die in your sin.; C, Where I am going, you cannot come". (8:21). *Second*, Development: C', "Is that what he means by saying, 'Where I am going, you cannot come?'" (8:22); B', "You will die in your sins unless you believe that I am he" (8:24); A', "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, you will realize . . ." (8:28). See Stibbe, 1993: 154-5; Bernard, 1929: 298-304; Robertson, 1932: 144-8; Westcott, 1880: 130-3.

²⁰³⁵ The two narratorial notes in vv. 27 and 30 are helpful for the reader to fill the gaps in between the utterance units. Cf. Morris, 1995: 395-402; Westcott, 1880: 130-3; Moloney, 1998: 270-4; Bernard, 1929: 298-304.

	quote	means by saying, "Where I am going, you come?"
Jesus	Antithetical parallelism, paradox, I-You contrast, belief-statement	Jesus' interlocutors are from below, he is from above; they are of this world, he is not of this world. He told them that they would die in their sins, for they will die in their sins unless they believe that he is he.
Jews	Misunderstanding question	Who Jesus is?
Jesus	Question, agency language, mission statement	Why does Jesus speak to the Jews at all? He has much to say about them and much to condemn the one who sent him is true, and he declares to the world what he has heard from him.
Jesus	Double meaning, prolepsis, elusive/cryptic talk, agency talk	When the Jews have lifted up the Son of Man, they will realize that Jesus is he, and that he has done nothing on his own, but he speaks these things because the Father instructed him. And the one who has sent him is with him; he has not left him alone, for Jesus always does what is pleasing to the Father.

Table 76: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 8:21-30

John 8:21-30 has ironies, trial motif, proleptic development and dramatic features (cf. 2000: 82; Bartholomä, 2010: 148-52). Neyrey (2007: 157; cf. Duke, 1985: 85-6) states "Twice the author employs irony in Jesus' declaration of his forthcoming death (cf. vv. 21, 28)".²⁰³⁶ According to Stibbe (1993: 98; cf. Loader, 1997: 469; Brant, 2004: 143-4), "If the trial scene in John 8:21-59 is really that of the trial scene, then the implicit commentary throughout supports the narrator's defence of the divinity of Jesus and the concomitant satire of the deification of the Jews".²⁰³⁷ These features of the dialogue help the reader understand the deeper aspects of the conversation. Within the sub-slot, Jesus' utterances are described as εἶπεν/ἔλεγεν (vv. 21, 28), and his interlocutors' utterances as ἔλεγον (v. 22, 25a; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 347-54). In v. 27 the narrator talks about the misunderstanding nature of his interlocutors, in v. 30 about the believing aspect (πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν, cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 28; Witherington, 1995: 176).²⁰³⁸ The major tenets of the sub-slot, as in the case of the sixth slot (cf. vv. 12

²⁰³⁶ Neyrey (2007: 157) continues that, "First, when Jesus says 'I go away' (8:21), his opponents strangely do not understand that he is talking of his suicide (8:22). The irony lies in the fact that, while 'death' is clearly understood by both Jesus and his opponents, they seek to kill Jesus but will eventually finish their task. Second, Jesus declares to them, 'You have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will realize that I am he' (8:28). As all know, 'lift up' is one of the Johannine double-meaning terms, suggesting both the lifting up of the crucified Jesus and the enthronement of the Son of Man".

²⁰³⁷ Stibbe (1983: 99) observes the intertextual resonances between Isa 43:8-13 and John 8:12-59: *first*, Jesus takes on the role of judge (Yahweh in Isa 43 and Jesus in John 8); *second*, the context takes on the characteristics of a trial; *third*, the speaker's opponents are deemed to be blind and deaf (see John 8:43, 47, and see 9:35-41); *fourth*, there is a concern to use 'former things' as evidence of the speaker's credentials (see John 8:56-58 and Jesus' reference to Abraham); *fifth*, the speaker identifies himself with the divine name, 'I am' (John 8:12, 24, 28, 58); *sixth*, there is a concern for truth (John 8:32, 45-46), understanding (8:27), belief (8:30, 31) and knowledge (8:14, 19); and *seventh*, there is a strong emphasis upon the importance of witnesses (John 8:14-18). Finally, he (1993: 99) says, "The trial scene in John 8:21-59 is really that of the trial scene, then the implicit commentary throughout supports the narrator's defence of the divinity of Jesus and the concomitant satire of the deification of the Jews".

²⁰³⁸ Strachan (1941: 209) states that, "Believe in his name is a more definite description of true faith".

be *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* format (cf. Duke, 1985: 144-6)²⁰³⁹ and within that *challenge and riposte* rhetorical development is a continuous phenomenon (cf. Lindars, 1992: 114).

The function of the dialogue can be discussed in the following way. In 8:21-30, the dialogue begins and ends with Jesus' utterances (cf. vv. 21 and 28-29). While it begins by proclaiming his departure and his interlocutors' death in their sin, it closes by affirming his interconnectedness with the Father and his responsibility to fulfill his Father's mission (cf. Robertson, 1932: 145-8). On the contrary, his interlocutors' talk is restricted to two questions (vv. 22 and 25a) and at one point they simply fail to understand and so fail to respond in turn (cf. v. 27). While the Jews are reduced to the level of misunderstanding and complete voicelessness, Jesus takes control of the conversation (cf. vv. 21, 23-24, 25b-26, 28-29). A paradigmatic reader can notice the way the forensic and proleptic character of the dialogue become more acute episode after episode (cf. Brant, 2004: 144; Neyrey, 2009: 230-7). Belief-language of the sub-slot develops in two ways: *first*, as Jesus invites his hearers to "believe that he is 'I am'" (v. 24); and *second*, by way of a narratorial conclusion that "many believed in him" (v. 30; cf. Painter, 1993: 301).²⁰⁴⁰ The contrasting expressions, like I-you, can-cannot, from above-from below, and belief-unbelief, are sharpening lines within the pericope in order to bifurcate between the ideologies of Jesus' community and of his opponents (cf. Dodd, 1960: 345-54; Thompson, 1988: 13).²⁰⁴¹ Moreover, the sub-slot is profound with themes like Jesus' departure,²⁰⁴² Jews' inability to go where Jesus goes, Jesus as one who is sent by God, lifting up of the Son of Man (cf. Menken, 1993: 318)²⁰⁴³ and pleasing of the Father (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 154-8). Von Wahlde (2010: 397) combines the sixth slot and the first part of the seventh slot (cf. vv. 12-30) together as a single whole.²⁰⁴⁴ As per his view (cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 397), Jesus' talk in the sub-slot (vv. 21-30) has the following purposes: *first*, to explain that the inadequacies of his listeners are due to the nature 'of the world';²⁰⁴⁵ *second*, to warn them that when the Son of Man is put to death, they will indeed know that he is 'I

²⁰³⁹ Neyrey (2007: 155) says that, "Throughout this extended trial, Jesus has been calling them 'liars' and 'murderers', so no matter what they say, the audience will scrutinise their words and behaviour, particularly by tracing the familiar rhetorical pattern of *statement-misunderstanding-clarification*". Cf. Robertson, 1932: 144-8; Vincent, 1969: 169-72; Bernard, 1929: 299; Morris, 1995: 395-402; Westcott, 1880: 130-3.

²⁰⁴⁰ Maniparampil (2004: 276; cf. Witherington, 1995: 175; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 305; Keener, 2003: 746) opines that, "Jesus is the revelation of the Father, who revealed what the Father is like. He is love, spirit and light. Lack of acceptance of this revelation (love and life) is unbelief and that is sin in the Fourth Gospel".

²⁰⁴¹ Loader (1997: 469) states that, "In 8:13-20 and in 8:21-29 John portrays Jesus and his opponents as belonging to two different worlds: Jesus is from above; they are from below (8:23), but it is a dualism that retains flexibility; faith enables one to cross the boundary".

²⁰⁴² Ridderbos (1987/1997: 299) is of the opinion that, "In v. 21 the dialogue between Jesus and 'the Jews' continues. As in v. 12, the transitional formula yields no information concerning his going away and the futile attempts his partners in dialogue would make to find him". Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 155; Keener, 2003: 743; Strachan, 1941: 208-9; Lenski, 1942: 610-1; Brown, 1966: 349-51; Köstenberger, 2004: 257-8.

²⁰⁴³ Bultmann (1971: 350; cf. Witherington, 1995: 176; Von Wahlde, 2010: 396; Parker, 1959: 218; Strachan, 1941: 209) remarks that the Jews "do not suspect that 'lifting him up' they themselves make him their judge. The double meaning of 'lifting up' is obvious. They lift up Jesus by crucifying him; but it is precisely through his crucifixion that he is lifted up to his heavenly glory as the Son of Man. At the very moment when they think they are passing judgment on him, he becomes their judge".

²⁰⁴⁴ Von Wahlde (2010: 378-97) identifies at least three editorial processes of chap. 8. See the way he explains the three editorial words.

²⁰⁴⁵ Von Wahlde (2010: 397; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 197-9) says further that, "He [Jesus] also warns them that if they do not believe that he is 'I AM', they will die in their sins".

am’;²⁰⁴⁶ and *third*, to prepare his ‘work’ (cf. v. 31) which will appear in the next section of the gospel (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 128).²⁰⁴⁷ While on the one hand Jesus’ character shows an elusive/cryptic nature, on the other he shows his revelatory nature through his talk-units. In the dialogue the narrator once again brings the reader toward an anticipatory mood. The narrator anticipates knowing about the place of Jesus’ departure and about the lifting up of the Son of Man. The plot structure of the story is smooth as the current slot is linked with the previous slot and the subsequent sub-slot (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53; Chatman, 1978: 20). The text is performative and rhetorical as it persuades the reader toward believing and moving forward as a character of Jesus’ personality (cf. Vorster, 2009: 505-78; Lategan, 2009: 457-84).

9.2.7.2. Sub-Slot Two (8:31-59)

In the second sub-slot (vv. 31-59) there are thirteen utterance units (cf. Robertson, 1932: 38; Quast, 1991/1996: 70-1). While Jesus’ talk-units are represented seven times (see vv. 31b, 38, 39b-41a, 42-47, 49-51, 54-56, and 58), his interlocutors’ talk-units are represented six times (see vv. 33, 39a, 41b, 48, 52-53, and 57; cf. Strachan, 1941: 208-17). As in the case of the first sub-slot, here too Jesus is the one who begins and concludes the dialogue (vv. 31 and 58; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87-120; Culpepper, 1983: 128).²⁰⁴⁹ The setting of the dialogue at v. 31 changes in vv. 31-59 as there develops a shift: *first*, in v. 30, the narrator concludes a dialogue by saying that “as he was saying these things, many believed in him”; and *second*, in v. 31, he begins another dialogue by stating that “then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him” (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87-120; Culpepper, 1983: 128).²⁰⁵⁰ While in the first case a dialogue is demonstrated within the Jewish community on account of Jesus (cf. v. 30), in the second case Jesus addresses exclusively the believing community (cf. v. 31a).²⁰⁵¹

John 8:31-59	Overview
v.31: ἔλεγεν οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς πρὸς τοὺς πεπιστευκότας αὐτῷ Ἰουδαίους· ἔαν ὑμεῖς μένητε ἐν τῷ λόγῳ τῷ ἐμῷ, ἀληθῶς μαθηταὶ μου ἔστε	(1) The dialogue in vv. 31-59 comprises thirteen utterance units (vv. 31b, 38, 39b-41a, 42-47, 49-51, 54-56, and 58).
v.32: καὶ γνώσεσθε τὴν ἀλήθειαν, καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια ἐλευθερώσει ὑμᾶς.	
v.33: ἀπεκρίθησαν πρὸς αὐτόν· σπέρμα Ἀβραάμ ἐσμεν καὶ οὐδεὶς δεδουλεύκαμεν πώποτε· πῶς σὺ λέγεις ὅτι ἐλεύθεροι γενήσεσθε;	
v.34: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι πᾶς ὁ ποιῶν τὴν ἁμαρτίαν δοῦλός ἐστιν τῆς ἁμαρτίας.	33b, 34b, 39b-41a,

²⁰⁴⁶ Menken (1993: 318) opines that, “There are . . . definite points of contact between John’s Son of Man and the Son of Man in the synoptic tradition—the Son of Man who is exalted and glorified on the cross (John 12:23, 34 [cf. 32]; 13:31) and ascends into heaven (John 3:13; 6:62), may be regarded as a Johannine reinvention of the synoptic Son of Man who has to suffer (Mark 8:31) and will come in glory (Mark 8:38)”. Cf. Mat 2004: 276; Witherington, 1995: 175, 200; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 199; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 301-2; Keener, 1974; Parker, 1959: 216-9; Moloney, 1998: 273; Milne, 1993: 128-9.

²⁰⁴⁷ Cf. Strachan, 1941: 210; Von Wahlde, 2010: 397; Lenski, 1942: 626; Keener, 2003: 746-7; Parker, 1959: 216-9.

²⁰⁴⁸ Motyer (1997: 152) says, “The reader is gripped and drawn into the discussion not just by being presented with this bewildering variety of responses. Further techniques are employed . . . particularly in the material up to v. 31.”

²⁰⁴⁹ Usually, it is a narratorial trick to foreground Jesus and his utterances over against his interlocutors’ utterances. Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 204-5; Witherington, 1995: 176; Parker, 1959: 220-1; Bruce, 1983: 128.

²⁰⁵⁰ The setting changes due to the change of characters from the general group of Jews to those who believe in Jesus.

²⁰⁵¹ But the narrator maintains the narrative flow from vv. 21-30 to vv. 31-59 by way of sustaining the same attitude of the interlocutors. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 261; Witherington, 1995: 176; Temple, 1952: 141-2.

<p>v.35: ὁ δὲ δοῦλος οὐ μένει ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, ὁ υἱὸς μένει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.</p> <p>v.36: ἔαν οὖν ὁ υἱὸς ὑμῶν ἐλευθερώσῃ, ὅπως ἐλεύθεροι ἔσεσθε.</p> <p>v.37: Οἶδα ὅτι σπέρμα Ἀβραάμ ἐστε· ἀλλὰ ζητεῖτέ με ἀποκτείνειν, ὅτι ὁ λόγος ὁ ἐμὸς οὐ χωρεῖ ἐν ὑμῖν.</p> <p>v.38: ἃ ἐγὼ εἶδρακα παρὰ τῷ πατρὶ λαλῶ· καὶ ὑμεῖς οὖν ἃ ἠκούσατε παρὰ τοῦ πατρὸς ποιεῖτε.</p> <p>v.39: ἀπεκρίθησαν καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῷ· ὁ πατὴρ ἡμῶν Ἀβραάμ ἐστίν. λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· εἰ τέκνα τοῦ Ἀβραάμ ἐστε, τὰ ἔργα τοῦ Ἀβραάμ ἐποιεῖτε·</p> <p>v.40: νῦν δὲ ζητεῖτέ με ἀποκτείνειν ἀνθρώπων ὡς τὴν ἀλήθειαν ὑμῖν λελάληκα ἣν ἤκουσα παρὰ τοῦ θεοῦ· τοῦτο Ἀβραάμ οὐκ ἐποίησεν.</p> <p>v.41: ὑμεῖς ποιεῖτε τὰ ἔργα τοῦ πατρὸς ὑμῶν. εἶπαν [οὖν] αὐτῷ· ἡμεῖς ἐκ πορνείας οὐ γεγεννημέθα, ἕνα πατέρα ἔχομεν τὸν θεόν.</p> <p>v.42: εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· εἰ ὁ θεὸς πατὴρ ὑμῶν ἦν ἡγαπᾶτε ἄν ἐμέ, ἐγὼ γὰρ ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐξηλθὼν καὶ ἤκω· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ ἐλήλυθα, ἀλλ' ἐκεῖνός με ἀπέστειλεν.</p> <p>v.43: διὰ τί τὴν λαλίαν τὴν ἐμὴν οὐ γινώσκετε; ὅτι οὐ δύνασθε ἀκοῦν τὸν λόγον τὸν ἐμόν.</p> <p>v.44: ὑμεῖς ἐκ τοῦ πατρὸς τοῦ διαβόλου ἐστὲ καὶ τὰς ἐπιθυμίας τοῦ πατρὸς ὑμῶν θέλετε ποιεῖν. ἐκεῖνος ἀνθρωποκτόνος ἦν ἀπ' ἀρχῆς καὶ ἐν τῇ ἀληθείᾳ οὐκ ἔστηκεν, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν ἀλήθεια ἐν αὐτῷ. ὅταν λαλῇ τὸ ψεῦδος, ἐκ τῶν ἰδίων λαλεῖ, ὅτι ψεύστης ἐστὶν καὶ ὁ πατὴρ αὐτοῦ.</p> <p>v.45: ἐγὼ δὲ ὅτι τὴν ἀλήθειαν λέγω, οὐ πιστεύετε μοι.</p> <p>v.46: τίς ἐξ ὑμῶν ἐλέγχει με περὶ ἁμαρτίας; εἰ ἀλήθειαν λέγω, διὰ τί ὑμεῖς οὐ πιστεύετε μοι;</p> <p>v.47: ὁ ὢν ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ τὰ ῥήματα τοῦ θεοῦ ἀκούει· διὰ τοῦτο ὑμεῖς οὐκ ἀκούετε, ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ οὐκ ἐστέ.</p> <p>v.48: Ἀπεκρίθησαν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῷ· οὐ καλῶς λέγομεν ἡμεῖς ὅτι Σαμαρίτης εἰ σὺ καὶ δαιμόνιον ἔχεις;</p> <p>v.49: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς· ἐγὼ δαιμόνιον οὐκ ἔχω, ἀλλὰ τιμῶ τὸν πατέρα μου, καὶ ὑμεῖς ἀτιμάζετε με.</p> <p>v.50: ἐγὼ δὲ οὐ ζητῶ τὴν δόξαν μου· ἔστιν ὁ ζητῶν καὶ κρίνων.</p> <p>v.51: ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἔαν τις τὸν ἐμὸν λόγον τηρήσῃ, θάνατον οὐ μὴ θεωρήσῃ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.</p> <p>v.52: εἶπον [οὖν] αὐτῷ οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι· νῦν ἐγνώκαμεν ὅτι δαιμόνιον ἔχεις. Ἀβραάμ ἀπέθανεν καὶ οἱ προφῆται, καὶ σὺ λέγεις· ἔαν τις τὸν λόγον μου τηρήσῃ, οὐ μὴ γεύσῃται θανάτου εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.</p> <p>v.53: μὴ σὺ μείζων εἶ τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν Ἀβραάμ, ὅστις ἀπέθανεν; καὶ οἱ προφῆται ἀπέθανον. τίνα σεαυτὸν ποιεῖς;</p> <p>v.54: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς· ἔαν ἐγὼ δοξάσω ἑμαυτόν, ἡ δόξα μου οὐδέν ἐστιν· ἔστιν ὁ πατὴρ μου ὁ δοξάζων με, ὃν ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι θεὸς ἡμῶν ἐστίν.</p> <p>v.55: καὶ οὐκ ἐγνώκατε αὐτόν, ἐγὼ δὲ οἶδα αὐτόν. καὶ εἶπω ὅτι οὐκ οἶδα αὐτόν, ἔσομαι ὅμοιος ὑμῖν ψεύστης· ἀλλὰ οἶδα αὐτόν καὶ τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ τηρῶ.</p> <p>v.56: Ἀβραάμ ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν ἡγαλλιάσατο ἵνα ἴδῃ τὴν ἡμέραν τὴν ἐμὴν, καὶ εἶδεν καὶ ἐχάρη.</p> <p>v.57: εἶπον οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι πρὸς αὐτόν· πεντήκοντα ἔτη οὕτω ἔχεις καὶ Ἀβραάμ εἰδρακα;</p> <p>v.58: εἶπεν αὐτοῖς Ἰησοῦς· ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, πρὶν Ἀβραάμ γενέσθαι ἐγὼ εἰμί.</p> <p>v.59: ἦσαν οὖν λίθους ἵνα βάλωσιν ἐπ' αὐτόν. Ἰησοῦς δὲ ἐκρύβη καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τοῦ ἱεροῦ.</p>	<p>42b-47, 48b, 49b-51, 52b-53, 54b-56, 57b, 58b); out of the thirteen utterance units seven are of Jesus (vv. 31b-32, 34b-38, 39b-41a, 42b-47, 49b-51, 54b-56, 58b) and six are of the Jews (vv. 33b, 39a, 41b, 48b, 52b-53, 57b);</p> <p>(2) As in the case of the sixth slot (8:12-20) and the first sub-slot of the seventh slot (8:21-30), in 8:31-59 the dialogue begins and ends with Jesus' utterances (cf. vv. 31b-32 and 58b);</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 31a, 59) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 31a, 33a, 34a, 39a, 39b, 41b)</p>
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Table 77: The dialogue of 8:31-59 within the narratorial framework

The content of the sub-slot is discussed herewith (see Table 77).²⁰⁵² *First*, Jesus begins his talk to 'the Jews who had believed in him' (τοὺς πεπιστευκότας αὐτῷ Ἰουδαίους, v. 31a; cf. Robertson,

²⁰⁵² Smith (1999: 184) opines that, "The discussion will now center on descent from Abraham, as the tension between Jesus and his newly found Jewish believers quickly becomes apparent (vv. 31-33)".

1932: 148-9; Talbert, 1992: 154).²⁰⁵³ His advice to them is to continue in his word (μείνητε λόγῳ τῷ ἐμῷ, v. 31b) and to become his true disciples (cf. Strachan, 1941: 210; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 28).²⁰⁵⁴ The aftermath of ‘continuing in the word of Jesus’ and ‘becoming his disciples’ is twofold: (1) they will know the truth (γνώσεσθε τὴν ἀλήθειαν, v. 32a); and (2) the truth will set them free (ἡ ἀλήθεια ἐλευθερώσει ὑμᾶς, v. 32b; cf. Smith, 1999: 184-85).²⁰⁵⁵ Borchert (1991: 205) says that, “. . . he [Jesus] called forth those who believed the quality of consistency epitomized by the Johannine term ‘abide’, ‘continue’, or ‘remain’ (μένειν, ‘hold to’). The believer committed to abide in Jesus and his word is in this gospel to be designated as an authentic ‘disciple’”. The aspects of truth and freedom are integrally connected here. *Second*, Jesus’ word leads his interlocutors to misunderstanding (v. 33). They affirm their traditional standpoint, “we are descendants of Abraham” (Σπέρμα Ἀβραάμ ἐσμεν)²⁰⁵⁶ and raise a question, “What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’” (πῶς σὺ λέγεις ὅτι Ἐλεύθεροι γενήσεσθε; v. 34; cf. Strachan, 1941: 211; Talbert, 1992: 154).²⁰⁵⁷ *Third*, in Jesus’ response (vv. 34-35) he makes a sharp distinction between those who are “slaves to sin” (ἁμαρτίαν δοῦλός) and “those who are made free by the Son” (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 70-1; Motyer, 1997: 179-80).²⁰⁵⁸ He then considers his counterparts as true descendants of Abraham due to two reasons: (1) they do not abide in his word; and (2) they plot to kill him (v. 37; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 28; Duke, 1985: 76). Jesus then says to them that he declares what he has seen in the Father’s presence and that his interlocutors must do what they have heard from the Father (v. 38; cf. Dodd, 1968: 41-57; Robertson, 1932: 150-1).²⁰⁵⁹ Knowing the truth in this context means abiding in Jesus that in turn makes his interlocutors free from their enslavement to sin.

²⁰⁵³ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 204) says that, “The evangelist needed a remark such as the one in v. 30 as a warning. We can therefore reasonably assume that the evangelist has in mind Jewish Christians of his time who—perhaps as a result of Jewish counter-propaganda—are in danger of lapsing from faith in Christ”.

²⁰⁵⁴ Third-class condition with ἐάν and first aorist (constative) active subjunctive. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 148-149; 1991: 348; Parker, 1959: 220-1; Bruce, 1983: 196; Strachan, 1941: 210; Barrett, 1978: 344.

²⁰⁵⁵ Köstenberger (2004: 261) says that, “The reference to being ‘truly’ Jesus’ disciples (μαθηταί) implies that in Johannine thought such a thing as false (or temporary) disciples, that is, people who follow a teaching without a true reason”. A similar construction is found in John 13:35 (love) and 15:8 (fruitfulness). He (2004: 261) further says that, “Truth in this context is not solely intellectual but centered in Christ, who can save people from moral darkness”. Cf. Morris, 1995: 405; Brown, 1966: 355; Barrett, 1978: 344; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 205.

²⁰⁵⁶ Von Wahlde (2010: 399; cf. Motyer, 1997: 172-4) opines that, “This was a common term used by Jews of the time. For example, Israelites are called ‘seed of Abraham’ elsewhere in the NT, e.g., Luke 1:55; Rom 9:8; Gal 3:29; Heb 2:16”.

²⁰⁵⁷ Köstenberger (2004: 262) states that, “Their [Jews’] descent from Abraham was the Jews’ pride and motivation of confidence regarding their salvation. The Jews considered Abraham to be the founder of the Jewish religion, and he recognised the Creator and served him faithfully”. See Philo’s portrayal of Abraham in *Abr.* 1 §70; *Migr.* 1 §24 §§132-33; *Heir* 6 §§24-27.

²⁰⁵⁸ Keener (2003: 1: 749) says that, “Writers used ἐλευθερία and its equivalents for just and appropriate freedom under the law, or not being subject to absolute monarchs or to another people, and spoke of subjection to other peoples as slavery”. Cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 400; Carson, 1991: 350; Parker, 1959: 223-4; Barrett, 1978: 344.

²⁰⁵⁹ Van der Watt (2007: 15) says that, “The basic answer lies in one’s behaviour, because who one is is apparent in what one does. A child does what his father does (8:38-39) and therefore one’s deeds reveal one’s allegiance”. See Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 208; Lenski, 1942: 634-9; Strachan, 1941: 212.

Fourth, the “believed ones” repetitively affirm that “Abraham is our father” (Ὁ πατὴρ ἡμῶν Ἀβραάμ ἐστιν, v. 39a; cf. v. 33a; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 71; Bartholomä, 2010: 152-77).²⁰⁶⁰ Bernard (1929: 2: 310) is of the view that, “He (Jesus) had admitted (v. 37) that they were σπέρμα Ἀβραάμ, but this natural descent did not, by itself, guarantee all the privileges which belong to the τέκνα who are Abraham’s true heirs (cf. Gal 3:7, 9)”. Jesus’ response in vv. 39b-41a points this aspect very clearly. *Fifth*, Jesus opposes their argument and says more emphatically that they are not at all children of Abraham due to their ‘plot to kill him’ (v. 39b-41a; cf. Painter, 1993: 302; Bultmann, 1971: 315).²⁰⁶¹ *Sixth*, as a response they reaffirm that they are not “illegitimate children” (πορνείας οὐ γεγεννήμεθα) but “children of God” (ἐνα πατέρα ἔχομεν τὸν θεόν, v. 41b; cf. Dodd, 1968: 47-57; Bernard, 1929: 2: 311-2).²⁰⁶² *Seventh*, Jesus counters their third argument by stating that they are “children of devil” (ὁμεῖς ἐκ τοῦ πατρὸς τοῦ διαβόλου ἐστὲ) due to their unbelief in him (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 29; Talbert, 1992: 156-7).²⁰⁶³ Jesus says to them that: (1) because his Father is truth, he is also true; and (2) by denying him they deny the one who sent him and become followers of the devil who is the liar (vv. 42-47; cf. Dodd, 1968: 42; Smith, 1999: 187).²⁰⁶⁴ *Eighth*, the Jews react to Jesus’ charge that they are “children of devil” (v. 48; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 324; Robertson, 1932: 155). Their reaction was more in the form of an accusation posed against him that “you are a Samaritan and have a demon” (Σαμαρίτης εἶ σὺ καὶ δαιμόνιον ἔχεις, cf. Bernard, 1929: 2: 316-7).²⁰⁶⁵ *Ninth*, Jesus denies their allegation and tells them that their dishonor toward him is synonymous to their dishonor to the father (v. 49). He also tells them that he does not seek his glory but rather the glory of the Father who is the judge (v. 50; cf. Strachan, 1941: 214; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 29).²⁰⁶⁶ As a veracity statement he tells them that “whoever keeps my word will never see death” (ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐάν τις τὸν ἐμὸν λόγον τηρήσῃ, θάνατον

²⁰⁶⁰ Keener (2003: 1: 754) says that, “. . . the issue in this context is not merely generic descent, which Jesus seems to grant them (8:37); their claim to be Abraham’s children (8:39) is undoubtedly a related claim to salvation (cf. ‘our father Abraham’ in 8:39, 52; Matthew 3:9; Luke 3:8)”. Also see Von Wahlde, 2010: 400; Witherington, 1995: 177; Barrett, 1978: 347; Bruce, 1983: 199.

²⁰⁶¹ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 312) is of the opinion that, “Man” (ἄνθρωπος) has no special emphasis here; it is used rather in the general sense of ‘someone’ (but cf. ‘murderer’, ἀνθρωποκτόνος, in v. 44). Jesus speaks here openly of God as the Father from whom he ‘heard’ the truth. But having said that, he has thereby indicated to them the depth of the chasm that separates them from Abraham: ‘this is not what Abraham did’”.

²⁰⁶² Lenski (1942: 644) states that, “The negation of this relation would thus be γεννηθῆναι ἐκ πορνείας, to be born of fornication, in the sense of having two fathers: one their real father, who actually begot them; the other their apparent father, in whose house they are merely tolerated”. Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 313; Carson, 1991: 352.

²⁰⁶³ Painter (1993: 302) says that, “The two fathers in question are God and the devil and this is understood by the Jews who responded in kind by accusing Jesus of being a Samaritan and demon-possessed, 8:48-49”.

²⁰⁶⁴ Keener (2003: 1: 752-53) says that, “In this section [i.e., vv. 37-51] Jesus not only defends himself against character charges (8:46), but challenges the character of his opponents”. Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 314; Van der Watt, 2007: 15; Tenney, 1948: 149; Morris, 1995: 410-3.

²⁰⁶⁵ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 318) states that, “Because of his [Jesus’] refusal to acknowledge his Jewish audience as the seed of Abraham, Jesus was in their eyes no better than the Samaritans, who, on account of their worship on Mount Gerizim and their encroachment on Israel’s national existence, were avoided by Jews as despisers of true religion and as enemies”.

²⁰⁶⁶ In response to the accusation of the Jews, Jesus replies again in terms of his relation to the one who sent him and of seeking glory (see Painter, 1993: 302). Cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 406; Bultmann, 1971: 324; Lindars, 1972: 332; Lightfoot, 1956: 194; Blomberg, 2001: 148.

οὐ μὴ θεωρήσῃ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, v. 51; cf. Van der Watt, 2005: 473). As in the case of the utterance (vv. 31a-32) in the sub-slot, here too Jesus emphasises the aspect of keeping his word (v. 51).

Tenth, misunderstanding once again rules over the scene. The Jews attempt to confirm that Jesus has a demon and raise a question, “Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died?” (μείζων εἶ τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν Ἀβραάμ, ὅστις ἀπέθανεν; vv. 52-53; cf. De Lange, 2001; Bartholomä, 2010: 152-77).²⁰⁶⁷ *Eleventh*, as at the beginning of the dialogue (i.e., 8:14-15), Jesus brings the contrast between his “knowing” and his interlocutors’ “unknowing” (vv. 54-56; cf. Robertson, 1932: 157-8). He further says that “If I glorify myself, my glory is not from myself, but from my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God’” (Ἐὰν ἐγὼ δοξάσω ἑαυτὸν ἡ δόξα μου οὐδὲν ἐστίν· ἐστὶν ὁ πατήρ μου ὁ δοξάζων με, ὃν ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι θεὸς ἡμῶν, v. 54).²⁰⁶⁸ *Twelfth*, the Jews raise another misunderstanding question: “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” (Πεντήκοντα ἔτη οὐπω ἔχεις καὶ Ἀβραάμ ἐώρακας; vv. 55-56; cf. Dodd, 1968: 54-7; Bultmann, 1971: 327).²⁰⁶⁹ And *last*, Jesus’ veracity statement about his person is that “Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am” (Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, πρὶν γενέσθαι ἐγὼ εἰμὶ, v. 58; cf. Ball, 1996: 80-1; Wallace, 1996: 515, 530-1).²⁰⁷⁰ Bernard (1993: 322) says that, “It is clear that John means to represent Jesus as thus claiming for Himself the timeless being of Deity, as distinct from the temporal existence of man”. The narrator’s intention is more obvious at vv. 31 and 59. Whereas in v. 31 the narrator endeavors to connect the second slot of the seventh slot with the previous part,²⁰⁷¹ in v. 59 he describes about the dramatic action and reaction of the Jews toward Jesus and his exit from the scene (cf. Culpepper, 1997: 198).

²⁰⁶⁷ Keener (2003: 1: 765-6) says that, “The interlocutors conversely deny that Jesus is greater than Abraham (8:53); Jesus responds that he is not boasting (8:54-55), but that Abraham himself recognised Jesus’ superiority and that Jesus existed eternally before him (8:58)—a blatant assertion of deity which could not be misinterpreted (8:59)”. Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 319-20; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 137; Westcott, 1958: 139.

²⁰⁶⁸ The contrast between Jesus and his interlocutors is revealed yet another time through his utterance: / *first*, his ‘knowing’ over against his interlocutors’ ‘unknowing’; and *second*, his ‘keeping of the word’ over against his interlocutors’ ‘not keeping the word’. See Bultmann, 1971: 326; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 320-2; Keener, 2003: 766-8; Hendrikx, 2002: 63-5; Robertson, 1932: 158. In v. 56 Jesus says, “Your ancestor Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day; he saw it and was glad”. Ridderbos (1987/1997: 320; cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 416-7) says that, “The expectation of the fulfillment of that promise is then characterised by Jesus as a rejoicing in that Abraham would see ‘my day’, that is, the day of the Son of Man. Therefore, God promised Abraham is his descendants, *that* Jesus draws into the light of the messianic-eschatological future, which in his coming has begun its fulfilment (‘my day’)”.

²⁰⁶⁹ Bultmann (1971: 326) says that, “Jesus’ answer shows clearly the inadequacy of Jewish standards of judgment (8:56): I am indeed greater than Abraham! Yet of course the answer is not immediately given as directly as it is given in a form which suggests that the important thing about the person of Jesus is not his greatness as a figure, but his role in the salvation history: ‘Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day; he saw it and was glad’” (Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 223; Hoskyns, 1947: 348-9).

²⁰⁷⁰ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 223; cf. Witherington, 1995: 178; Freed, 1983: 52-9; Painter, 1993: 322; 1991/1996: 71; Smith, 1999: 189) opines that, “Jesus now testifies to his precedence over Abraham by the assertion formula. He meets the Jews’ reference to his youth with ‘Before Abraham was, I am’. Jesus possesses real pre-existence, is included in the eternal divine being (cf. Psalm 89:2, I will be a father to the fatherless)”.
²⁰⁷¹ The narrator also describes about the believing nature of Jesus’ interlocutors (v. 31).

Robertson, 1932: 159).²⁰⁷² Thus the content of the dialogue is progressive in unfolding the meaning of truth, freedom, and conflicting kinships (cf. Borchert, 1996: 302).

The form of the dialogue can be determined on the basis of the following analysis.²⁰⁷³ As in the case of other slots here too Jesus and his interlocutors use various talk-forms (see Table 78)²⁰⁷⁴ and those talk-forms fit well within the extended *feast of Tabernacles* episode (7:1-8:59).²⁰⁷⁵ The dialogue-section at vv. 31-59 shows both *analeptic* and *proleptic* interconnections (cf. Chatman, 1978: 64; Genette, 1980: 48-79).²⁰⁷⁶ This feature of the sub-slot is helpful for the reader to view the dialogue from the larger framework of the gospel. John 8:31-59 has one of the longest and very dynamic Johannine dialogues (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 312-28). In the broader sense, the two-slot dialogue in chapter eight (i.e., vv. 12-20, 21-30/31-59) has *forensic* (cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 752-3; Van der Watt, 2005: 160-3),²⁰⁷⁷ *revelatory* (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 324-5; Motyer, 1997: 195-7), *polemical* (cf. Smith, 1999: 190; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 204), *ironic* (cf. vv. 37, 39b-41a, 52-53; cf. Duke, 1985: 70-1, 153; Powell, 1990: 27-32),²⁰⁷⁸ and *ambiguous* (cf. Van der Watt, 2005: 465;

²⁰⁷² Köstenberger (2004: 273) points out that, "Already in OT times, people considered stoning righteous men such as Moses (Exo 17:4), Joshua and Caleb (Num 14:10), and David (1 Sam 30:6). Stephen, the church's first martyr, was stoned on account of alleged blasphemy (Acts 7:57-60). Paul, too, was stoned, although he escaped with his life (Acts 14:19; 2 Cor 11:25), as were other saints (Heb 11:37)". Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 328; Von Wahlde, 2010: 417, 420; Carson, 1991: 358; Morris, 1995: 420-1.

²⁰⁷³ Dodd (1968: 41) says that, "Among the various 'forms' in which the Church's witness to the teaching and the saving work of Christ is presented in the gospels, the one most characteristic of the Fourth Gospel is elaborately wrought dramatic dialogue". According to Motyer (1997: 160; cf. Von Wahlde, 1984: 575-584; De Lange, 2008: 33-9), "Overall, 8:31-59 consists of a basic appeal (31 onward), followed by six exchanges between Jesus and 'the Jews', as follows: 31-32: The appeal to become disciples; 33-37: First exchange: the nature of freedom; 38-41a: Second exchange: kinship with Abraham; 41b-47: Third exchange: kinship with God or the devil; 48-51: Fourth exchange: Jesus the giver of life?; 52-56: Fifth exchange: Jesus greater than Abraham?; 57-59: Sixth exchange: the final alternatives".

²⁰⁷⁴ Rhetorical features of the Johannine dialogue are well-maintained in the episode through employing various literary features.

²⁰⁷⁵ Brown (1966: 342; cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 746-74) talks about the structure of the dialogue as follows: "An analysis of the structure of chap. 8 (v. 12 onward) is perhaps more difficult than that of any other chapter or long discourse in the first part of the Gospel. The general setting seems still to be the feast of Tabernacles, for the theme of light (8:12) fits into the Tabernacles motif".

²⁰⁷⁶ John 8:31-59 is a continuation of the previous dialogue sections and also it is connected to 9:1-41 (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 87-8). The major proleptic aspect is its leading toward the final forensic process in chaps. 18 and 19.

²⁰⁷⁷ Stibbe (1993: 99; cf. Lincoln, 1994: 3-30; Neyrey, 2009: 237-51; Bartholomä, 2010: 152-77) says that, "John 8:12-59 can be classed as judicial rhetoric because the language and imagery is thoroughly forensic in character . . . Jesus is both defending himself and attacking his accusers".

²⁰⁷⁸ Keener (2003: 746; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 305; Motyer, 1997: 172-4, 200-6; Stibbe, 1993: 101) says about vv. 31-36 as follows: "The tone of the dialogue quickly becomes harsh. Some suggest that John borrows here the nature of 'informal satire', which, like this passage, exploited irony in such a way as to portray the illogic of its victim". He (2003: 752-53) says about 8:37-51 as follows: "Forensic rhetoric as a rule required denouncing or defending the long-term character of one's accusers or the accused to establish guilt, innocence, or motives for hostility. In this section Jesus not only defends himself against character charges (8:46), but challenges the character of his opponents". Moloney (1998: 274) says that, "The passion of the encounters that follow and the bitterness of the accusation and counter-accusation make 8:31-59 the most difficult section of the Gospel". Van der Watt (2005: 151) states that, "Ironically Jesus is also accused of being possessed by a demon (8:48). The irony is that people who are accusing Jesus of being possessed by a demon are themselves without God (8:47) and are indeed children of the devil (8:44) blaming Jesus, who is from God (8:47)".

Hamid-Khani, 2000: 33-61)²⁰⁷⁹ elements. The phenomenon of *argumentation and counter-argumentation* is a leading dialogical technique within the sub-slot.

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Conditional statement, affirmation, invitation from unknowing-to-knowing	If the Jews continue in Jesus' word, they are free; and they will know the truth; the truth will make them free
Jews	Traditional claim, affirmation, question, doublet statement	The Jews are descendants of Abraham and never been slaves to anyone. What does Jesus mean by saying 'the Jews will be made free'?
Jesus	Veracity statement, contrasts, conditional statement, declaration/commandment, irony, agency talk	Jesus' veracity statements are: <i>first</i> , everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin; <i>second</i> , the son does not have a permanent place in the house; the son has a place there forever; <i>third</i> , if Jesus makes the Jews free, they will be free indeed; <i>fourth</i> , Jesus knows that they are descendants of Abraham, yet they look for an opportunity to kill him, because there is no place in them for the word; and <i>fifth</i> , Jesus declares what he has heard from the Father's presence, as for the Jews, they do what they have heard from the Father
Jews	Traditional claim, repetitive statement	Abraham is the father of the Jews
Jesus	Conditional statement, contrast, irony, negation, expectation	<i>First</i> , if the Jews were Abraham's children, they would be doing what Abraham did, but now they are trying to kill Jesus, a man who has told the truth that he heard from God. <i>Second</i> , they are not doing what Abraham did. The Jews must do what their father did.
Jews	Counter-argument, claim	The Jews are not illegitimate children; the Father is one father, God himself
Jesus	Conditional statement, agency language, surprise question, rhetorical question, accusation, revelation of misunderstanding/wrong identity/unbelief, contrasts, contrasts (especially between Heavenly Father and devil the father of lies)	If God were the Father of the Jews, they would love Jesus, for he came from God and now he is before them. Jesus did not come on his own; God sent him. The Jews do not understand Jesus says. It is because they cannot accept the word. They are from their father the devil; they choose to do their father's desires. The devil is a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him; when he lies, he speaks according to his own nature; he is a liar and the father of lies. But because Jesus tells the truth, they do not believe him. The Father cannot convict him of his sins. While he is in the truth, they are not able to believe him. Whoever is from God hears the words of God; the Jews do not hear the words of God/Jesus is that they are not from God.
Jews	Accusation, question, attributing wrong identity, misunderstanding	Jesus is a Samaritan and has a demon.
Jesus	Negation, honouring-dishonouring	Jesus does not have a demon; but he honours the Father

²⁰⁷⁹ Keener (2003: 744; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 320-3) states that, "The ambiguity of Jesus' language (signifying 'I am he' or 'I am') fits the gospel's pattern of double entendres inviting misunderstanding disinclined to persevere. This ambiguity is fully resolved in 8:58, however".

	contrast, glory statement, veracity statement, promise	Father, and the Jews dishonour Jesus. Yet he does not seek his own glory; there is one who sees it and he is the judge. Jesus truly tells the Jews that whoever keeps his word will never see death.
Jews	Misunderstanding, irony, accusation, repetitive statement, doublet statement, surprise/misunderstanding question, question for information	The Jews claim that they know that Jesus has a demon. Abraham died, and so did the prophets; yet Jesus says 'Whoever keeps my word will never taste death. Is Jesus greater than their father Abraham, who died? The prophets also died. Who does Jesus claim to be?
Jesus	Conditional statement, glory statement, repetitive expressions and language, knowing-unknown conflict, I-you contrast, controversial statement	If Jesus glorifies himself, his glory is nothing. It is his Father who glorifies him, of whom the Jews say, 'He is our God', though they do not know him. But Jesus knows him; if he would say that he does not know him, he would be a liar like the Jews. But Jesus does know him and he keeps his word. Their ancestor Abraham rejoiced that he would see Jesus' day; he saw it and was glad.
Jews	Misunderstanding question, sarcastic statement	Jesus is not yet fifty years old, and has Jesus seen Abraham?
Jesus	Veracity statement, controversial statement, I am statement, pre-eminence statement	Jesus tells them the reality that he existed before Abraham

Table 78: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 8:31-59

The dialogue is *conflict-centered* (cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 204), *question-and-answer sequential* and *belief-beckoning* (vv. 45-46; cf. Vincent, 1969: 173). The narrator of the episode uses literary devices, like *antithetical parallelism* (v. 35; cf. Baldick, 1990: 160), *synonymous parallelism* (v. 44; cf. Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 109-10), *statement-lie-clarification formula* (vv. 31-37),²⁰⁸⁰ *statement-misunderstanding-clarification formula* (vv. 38-40, 41-47, 51-55, 56-58; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 97-8; Van der Watt, 2005: 473, 475, 478),²⁰⁸¹ *questions* (vv. 33, 43, 46, 48, 53, 57; cf.

²⁰⁸⁰ Neyrey (2007: 159) says that, "The audience does not so much misunderstand this (i.e., Jesus' statement, vv. 31b-32) as *dissimulate* and lie. By saying 'we are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone' (v. 33), they claim high status as sons of Abraham, something all Israelites could claim". Pilch (1992: 126-34), in his survey of the sociology of lying, reveals two kinds of lies: lies of defense and lies of attack. Neyrey (2007: 163-4) says that, "People tell 'lies of defense' for many reasons: to conceal failure, intentional or unintentional; to avoid quarrels; and to aid kin and friends. Conversely, people tell 'lies of attack' for these reasons: to harm another by false testimony; to achieve material gain; and to stir up mischief and confuse authorities".

²⁰⁸¹ The sequence of *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* is at the heart of this dialogue section. See Culpepper, 1983:152; Bernard, 1929: 1: cxi; Resseguie, 2005: 65; Keener, 2003: 766; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 133; Cory, 1997: 110-1; Köstenberger, 2004: 272; Bultmann, 1971: 316-7. Jesus' character uses double entendre, ambiguous statements, or metaphors to create bewilderment or misunderstanding in the hearer, which is then resolved either by Jesus or the narrator. The misunderstanding and double entendre features of the dialogue contribute largely to reveal Jesus' identity and the thematic development of the Gospel story. Bernard (1929: 1: cxi) offers a deceptively simple definition of misunderstanding: "A saying of deep import is uttered by Jesus; His hearers misunderstand it, after a fashion that seems stupid; and then He repeats the saying in a slightly different form before He explains it and draws out its lesson". Von Wahlde (2010: 398) sees two misunderstanding passages at vv. 31-37 ("Abraham and Freedom") and vv. 38-50 ("Abraham and Sonship"). Culpepper identifies three parts to Johannine misunderstandings: *first*, Jesus makes a claim using a double entendre or metaphor that is ambiguous; *second*, the hearer selects one meaning for the statement over another possible meaning. Usually the hearer selects a literal meaning when Jesus intends a figurative

Stibbe, 1993: 101), *doublets* (vv. 31-33, 51-52; cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 315; Cory, 1997: 102) *Amen statements* (vv. 34, 51, 58; cf. Parker, 1959: 223, 231, 235), and three cycles of *challenge-riposte* structures (vv. 44-49, 51-55, 56-58; see Neyrey, 2007: 165-6; Freed, 1999: 9), in order to maintain the literary quality of his work and to engage the reader (see Table 78). The repetitive usage “continue in my word” (see, vv. 31, 37, 43, 55) is intentional within the slot and that holds the entire discussion together.

The sub-slot also has other conspicuous literary features, like *contrasts* (cf. Powell, 1999: 185),²⁰⁸² *mounting violent attacks on the Messiahship of Jesus*,²⁰⁸³ *truth-claims*, *Abrahamic-claims but un-Abrahamic nature of the Jews* (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 205; Calvert, 1992: 3-7),²⁰⁸⁵ *fatherhood-sonship* aspects (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 310), *accusations of self-glorification* (vv. 54-55; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 320), *fulfillment of God's promise* (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 320-1), *I am saying* (v. 58; cf. Ball, 1996: 80-4; Stibbe, 1999: 102), *assertion formula and characteristic pronouncements* (v. 58; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 320-1), *stereotyped apocalyptic polemic* (vv. 31-41),²⁰⁸⁶ *hyperbole* (vv. 39-41; cf. Witherington, 1995: 177; Gabel and Wheeler, 1986: 22), *riddles* (vv. 31-32, 38, 51, 56; also see vv. 24, 35; Thatcher, 2001: 271), *dualism* (cf. Barton, 2008: 3-18; Bianchi, 1987: 4: 506-12), *imagery* (vv. 35; cf. Zimmerman, 2006: 1-43; Thompson, 2006: 259-78),²⁰⁸⁷ and *chiasm* (cf. Stibbe, 1999: 97)²⁰⁸⁸ (see Table 78). John improves his language, doctrine, and style further from the sub-slots and episodes here. Stibbe (1993: 102; cf. Keener, 2003: 756; Dodd, 1960: 345-54) notes that, “Jesus’ use of logic in John 8:12-59 is forceful in its clarity and dogmatism. Je-

meaning; and *third*, Jesus or the narrator clarifies the misunderstanding with explanation (cf. Resseguie, 1999: 102). These three features are at the core of the discussion in the dialogue sections, especially in the third slot.

²⁰⁸² Lindars (2000: 91; cf. Keener, 2003: 754-8) clarifies it further by stating that, “The short and sharp dialogue in John 8:31-59 presents Jesus’ opponents as children of the devil by contrast with Jesus’ own affiliation to God. This contrast appears in a saying from the Jesus tradition in 8:51, 52 (cf. Mark 9:1)”.

²⁰⁸³ Or Jewish counter-arguments (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 205).

²⁰⁸⁴ Brown (1966: 355; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 205; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 308-9; Von Wahlde, 2010: 410) notes that, “The ‘truth’ meant is the revelation of Jesus, as we see by comparing this with v. 36 where it is the Son of Man. The hackneyed use of this phrase in political oratory in appealing for national or personal liberty is a distortion of the purely religious value of both truth and freedom in this passage [i.e., vv. 31-59]”.

²⁰⁸⁵ Moloney (1998: 274; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 159, 161; Motyer, 1997: 161; De Lange, 2008: 33-9) is of the opinion that, “A unifying narrative effect is created by the relentless increase in hostility between the only protagonists in the story, Jesus and ‘the Jews’, and by regular reference to Abraham (cf. vv. 33, 37, 39, 40, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58)”.

²⁰⁸⁶ Von Wahlde (2010: 410; Witherington, 1995: 177) says that, “Stereotyped polemic was common in Jewish apocalyptic and had as its goal the delineation and identification of two opposed groups of people and the characteristics of each. When described in starkly dualistic ways, these characteristics are intended to show the error of the one group and the correctness of the other”. Von Wahlde (2010: 410) says further that, “Rather than continuing to speak of Abraham as their father, they now refer to God as their father. From this point on, the stage is set for the dualistic polemic between those who are ‘sons’ of God and those who are ‘sons’ of the devil”.

²⁰⁸⁷ Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 134; Robertson, 1932: 149-50; Vincent, 1969: 173-4; Dods, 1967: 776-7.

²⁰⁸⁸ Neyrey (2007: 158-59) observes a *chiastic shape* at vv. 31-37 as follows: A: If you *remain in my word* you will now hear the truth and the truth will set you *free* (v. 32b); C: We are the *Seed of Abraham* (v. 33a); B: I have never been *slaves* (v. 33b); D: Everyone who does sin is a *slave* of sin; the slave does not *remain* in the house but the son *remains* forever (vv. 34-35); C’: I now that you are *Seed of Abraham*, but you seek to kill me (v. 36); B’: the Son makes you *free*, you will be truly *free* (v. 36); A’: My *word finds no rest in you* (v. 37c). Neyrey (2007: 162) sees *chiastic structures* also at vv. 38-40 and vv. 41-44.

paradeigmata (examples) from Jewish history (Abraham, 8:33-58) and everyday life (for example, the short parable in 8:35) to support his argument".²⁰⁸⁹ Jesus' character is not a *developing* type from the beginning till the end in John as he is *static*²⁰⁹⁰ [i.e., God himself]; but reveals his divine nature slowly to his interlocutors/reader. For his interlocutors, Jesus appears as a *dynamic*²⁰⁹¹ character. This *static* but *dynamic* characterisation is one of the peculiarities of Johannine presentation of Jesus. The interlocutors are *entering* and *exiting* the stage, but Jesus is the *existing* character from beginning till the end. The "being" and "pre-existent" (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 328) nature of Jesus is in sharp contrast with the "becoming" and "temporary" natures of his interlocutors. Within the overall *controversy and conflict natures* (cf. Van der Watt, 2005: 153; Powell, 1990: 42-4)²⁰⁹² and within the *antithetical development*²⁰⁹³ of the dialogue, all the above mentioned talk-forms and literary devices work dynamically and dramatically in order to shape the religious-theological dialogue into a persuasive one (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-91; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 204-5).²⁰⁹⁴ The controversial and antithetical nature of the dialogue is explicit through the ideological collision of Jesus' transformative views over the traditional religious-theological views of the Jews. As the climactic scene of an extended episode (7:1-8:59), the slot at 8:31-59 performs a significant role within the overall framework of the episode in order to stabilise the dramatic plot structure (cf. Templeton, 1999: 53-65; Chatman, 1978: 20, 43, 47)²⁰⁹⁵

The following are some of the functional aspects of the dialogue at vv. 39-59.²⁰⁹⁶ The dialogue here functions within the backdrop of the Feast of Tabernacles. Morris (1995: 386) has the opinion that, "It is usually held that the background of this chapter remains the Feast of Tabernacles [as in chap. 7]. In the Jewish celebration of that feast the imagery both of water and of light was very

²⁰⁸⁹ Stibbe (1993: 102) also says that, "He [Jesus] uses the *gnome* or 'maxim' [e.g. 8:34] and some of his reasoning takes on the form of the syllogism. Of importance to the *logos* of Jesus' arguments are his use of laws and witnesses".

²⁰⁹⁰ A *static character* does not develop or change; he or she remains stable in outlook and disposition throughout the story. According to Docherty, a static character is unable to step outside the bounds of the narrative, a cardboard character completely accounted for in the narrative and simply a function of the plot. See, Docherty, 1983: 224; Resseguie, 2005: 125.

²⁰⁹¹ A *dynamic character* undergoes a radical change throughout the course of a narrative, displaying new behaviour and changed outlooks. The change can be for better or worse, and may be large or small. But the change is not minor or insignificant: it is a basic and important change in the character. See, Malbon and Berlin, 1993; Malbon, 2000: Chap. 3; Arp, 1998: 79-80; Resseguie, 2005: 125.

²⁰⁹² Cory (1997: 103-4; cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 204) says that, "Like the wisdom tale, the Tabernacles discourse contains a description of the *conspiracy* against Jesus The narrative and dialogue segments of the Tabernacles discourse also suggest the *motivation* for the Jews' desire to arrest Jesus . . . the Tabernacles discourse contains a description of the Jews' *accusations* against Jesus . . . the Tabernacles discourse pertains to the situation of the *trial* Another characteristic feature of the wisdom tale is the protagonist's condemnation"

²⁰⁹³ Smith (1999: 190) is of the opinion that, "As the conversation unfolds it becomes evident that its bitterness derives from the kinship of the antagonists, but neither will grant the other a share of the legitimate lineage".

²⁰⁹⁴ Dodd (1968: 41; cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24) says that, "The long dialogue in John 8:31-58, one of the most powerful and most carefully composed in the Fourth Gospel, forms a unit within the sequence of controversial dialogues staged at the Feast of Tabernacles (7-8). It is held together by recurrent references to Abraham".

²⁰⁹⁵ Cory (1997: 106; cf. Brant, 2004: 143) says that, ". . . the Tabernacles discourse portrays Jesus actually becoming the judge of his accusers at the conclusion of the story (John 8:21-30, 31-58)".

²⁰⁹⁶ While Moloney (1998: 274) entitles this section as a "Jesus and 'the Jews' in Conflict over Their Respective Origins", Köstenberger (2004: 261) considers it as a "Paternity Dispute".

important, and light continues to occupy attention in this section”.²⁰⁹⁷ Jesus’ utterance, i.e. the light of the world”, is placed in the sixth slot (i.e., 8:12-20; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 100); echoes are continually reflected in Jesus’ succeeding dialogue with his interlocutors (e.g. verbal exchange between ‘the light’ and the ‘sons of darkness’, 9:1-41; cf. Motyer, 1993: 9).²⁰⁹⁸ Though the narrator tells about the believing character of Jesus’ interlocutors in vv. 30-31, in the dialogue (vv. 31b-58) the animosity of the Jews toward Jesus is more acute than before.²⁰⁹⁹ In this context, Jesus’ recurring talk “continue in my word” (see vv. 31, 51; cf. vv. 43, 47a, 55; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 204-21) remains as a strong caution for those who have already entered the status of “believing” in order to maintain their status quo.²¹⁰⁰ Culpepper (1993) talks about the general framework of chap. 8 as follows: “In John 8 the verbal exchange between Jesus and the Jews reaches its most hostile and strident tones. Many of the themes and arguments of the previous chapters are repeated, but the central issue is paternity The longer any hope of reconciliation”.²¹⁰¹ The aspects such as the plot to kill Jesus, calling Jesus a Samaritan, considering him as demon-possessed, and picking up the stones to throw at him show the opponents’ antithetical and violent attitudes toward Jesus.²¹⁰³ These aspects b

²⁰⁹⁷ Beasley-Murray (1987: 140) opines that, “The presentation of Jesus as fulfilling the faith and hope expressed in the Feast of Tabernacles is continued from chap. 7 in the first utterance of Jesus in chap. 8. The presuppositions are exposed in the subsequent dialogues”.

²⁰⁹⁸ Especially it is noticeable in the seventh slot [8:21-59]. This light-darkness dualism is rightly introduced in the dialogue in 8:12. A paradigmatic reader can rightly position Jesus as the light and his unbelieving interlocutors as representatives of darkness.

²⁰⁹⁹ Smith (1997: 32) comments that, “In this chapter [chap. 8] the harshness of the dialogue is matched by the roughness of the literary construction. Jesus makes several abrupt beginnings, after the initial ‘I am the light of the world’, each of which makes only the loosest connection with what precedes”. Though there is a flow of the dialogue from v. 30 to v. 31a, the reader finds difficulty in understanding the ‘believing’ nature and their ‘attitude’ toward Jesus. Keener (2003: 738) is of the opinion that, “What is clear is that a dialogue escalates from partial faith (8:30) to an attempt to kill Jesus (8:59), challenging the adequacy of mere claims to faith not demonstrated by perseverance (2:23-25)”. Keener (2003: 739) says further that, “This discourse [8:12-20] opens with a christological claim (8:12) that in turn provokes challenge (8:13), leading to ideological conflict and ultimately (8:59) the violence”. Cf. Dods, 1967: 775; Morris, 1995: 395-402; Moloney, 1998: 270-4; Westcott, 1880: 132-3; Robertson, 1932: 144-8.

²¹⁰⁰ Moloney (1998: 275; cf. Bruce, 1983: 196; Milne, 1993: 132; Robertson, 1932: 148) is of the opinion that the change in the tense of the verb from aorist (v. 30) to perfect (v. 31), and the change in syntax from $\pi\lambda\sigma\tau\epsilon\upsilon$ (v. 30) to $\pi\lambda\sigma\tau\epsilon\upsilon\sigma\alpha\upsilon$ followed by the dative (v. 31) indicate that an ongoing section of ‘the Jews’ have the belief in Jesus but still have some way to go (cf. 2: 23-25)”.

²¹⁰¹ Von Wahlde (NTS: 50) observes that, “The Jews disagree with Jesus in 8:33 and in 8:37. Jesus speaks of them as those who attempt to kill him Some have attempted to explain this controversy by taking the belief of 8:30 as of an imperfect kind”. Von Wahlde (NTS: 50) says that, “This verse (v. 31) introduces a discussion between Jesus and the Jews who believed in him’. Although this passage begins with an expression of belief in Jesus on the part of the Jews, the remainder of the passage has all the hostility of the characteristically Johannine use”.

²¹⁰² This is one of the most conflict-centered dialogues during the Feast of Tabernacles and it maintains a high level of suspense (v. 59). Jesus’ manipulative power over the dialogue and the Jewish failure in understanding the truth of Jesus invited the dramatic scene of “picking up stones”.

²¹⁰³ Moody Smith (1997: 31; cf. Bruce, 1983: 197-205) says that, “The extremely hostile interchange ranges over topics as who Jesus’ father is, who is Jesus, who are the true descendants of Abraham, who is the Jew, whether Jesus is Abraham or the devil, and whether Jesus has a demon”.

dramatic phenomena of the sub-slot aiming toward the climax of the Gospel.²¹⁰⁴ Through all these aspects of conflicts and characterisation within the text the implicit reader of the text further gathers his knowledge about the person and work of the protagonist.²¹⁰⁵

Understanding the dialogue at 8:31-59 is crucial in order to connect to the succeeding episodes. The narrator actualises three important things through this dialogue: *first*, a heightened religious-theological outlook; *second*, anticipation toward the glorification/lifting up of Jesus; and *third*, revealing the contrasting identities of Jesus and his interlocutors (cf. Robertson, 1932: 148-59).²¹⁰⁶ The attempt of the narrator to decipher Jesus' identity in relation to the Father increases theological possibilities.²¹⁰⁷ As Dodd (1963: 330) rightly pointed out that, "The long discourse in 8:31-58 may fairly be described as a *locus classicus* of Johannine theology". Another feature is that the dialogue here is proleptically attuned and the readers are led toward a higher degree of anticipation about the death of Jesus.²¹⁰⁸ Moreover, the dialogue between Jesus and his interlocutors is instrumental in dividing humanity into two categories, those who are of 'life' and those who are of 'death'.²¹⁰⁹ The above mentioned aspects prove that the central theme of this dialogue section is 'Jesus' oneness with the Father and his genuine identity' over against his interlocutors' 'false identity'.²¹¹⁰ While the dialogue develops as a controversial one between Jesus and his interlocutors, the heightened religious-theological outlook stands as a characteristic feature.

As indicated above, the narrator of the sub-slot takes up conflict and characterisation as one of the important devices here (cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 204-5; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24). He views: *first*, Jesus, as 'from above', who is 'one' with the Father, one whom Father glorifies, who is a moral/ethical teacher, the 'I am',²¹¹¹ revealer, and one who was there before Abraham (cf. Freed, 1983: 52-9; Lindars, 1981: 89-90); and *second*, the Jews, as opponents of Jesus who raise

²¹⁰⁴ It is important to notice that the present dialogue is decisive as it focuses more on two aspects: *first*, the conflict between the protagonist and his interlocutors; and *second*, the characterisation of Jesus and his opponents [i.e., Jews] in a more vivid sense.

²¹⁰⁵ In the case of the Jews, they interchangeably take both the names of God and Abraham as their Father. But a reader can rightly demarcate between the parental claims of both Jesus and the Jews on the basis of their worldviews. Carter (1990: 40-1) opines that, "Throughout the first twelve chapters, Jesus and his opponents are involved in conflict over Jesus' origin and identity. In chap. 8 it confirms their (his opponents') origin—from below (ἐκ τῶν κάτω, 8:23), not from Abraham (8:33, 39) or God (8:41), but 'from the father, the devil' (ἐκ τοῦ πατρὸς τοῦ διαβόλου, 8:44)". Cf. Moloney, 1998: 276; Köstenberger, 2004: 263-5, 67; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 316.

²¹⁰⁶ The dialogue of 8:31-59 functions as a: *first*, *theologically intertwined*; *second*, *future-oriented*; and *third*, *conflict-and-characterization focused one*.

²¹⁰⁷ Its theological possibilities are more abundant than any other pieces so far. Jesus' and his interlocutors' identities are defined in a more clear terms. The fatherhood claims of the characters (i.e., God as the Father of Jesus versus Abraham as the father of the Jews) increase the controversial and dialogic chances in more clear terms.

²¹⁰⁸ Moody Smith (1997: 31) says that, "Charges and countercharges are flung back and forth between Jesus and his opponents. Jesus in effect makes the Jews responsible for his death (8:28, 40, 59)".

²¹⁰⁹ Keener (2003: 738) states that, "A central theme in this discourse (8:12-59) is the question of origins: Jesus is from above, from God; his opponents are from below, from the devil. Jesus speaks here in spiritual terms concerning the world (see 8:37, 56; cf. 1 John 3:8; 5:19)".

²¹¹⁰ See Köstenberger, 2004: 261-74; read Robertson, 1932: 148-59; Vincent, 1969: 173-81.

²¹¹¹ See Morris, 1995: 420; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 140; Brown, 1966: 360, 367-8.

questions about the identity and tradition of Jesus, a community constantly in misunderstanding those boasting about their Abrahamic hereditary, people who do not accept Jesus' word, of darkness and devil, and a type of unbelief (cf. Dodd, 1960: 345-54; Neyrey, 2009: 237). In the dialogue, the dichotomy between Jesus and his interlocutors is symbolically played around the key figure Abraham (cf. De Lange, 2008: 33-9).²¹¹³ Though the dialogue is played around the figure Abraham, the final demarcation is made between Jesus who is the son of the heavenly Father and the Jews who are the children of devil. Moreover, the repetitive expression like 'continuing in Jesus' word'/abiding (vv. 31, 51; cf. v. 37, 43, 47a, 55),²¹¹⁴ reference to Abraham (vv. 33, 37a, 39a, 39b, 40, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58; cf. De Lange, 2008: 33-39),²¹¹⁵ attempts to kill/stone/accuse Jesus (vv. 37, 40a, 48, 59; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 30; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 134), 'believing' and 'not believing' (vv. 30, 31a, 45-46; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 261), 'knowing' and 'unknowing' (vv. 32, 37, 52, 55), 'slavery' and 'freedom' (vv. 32, 33, 34-36; cf. Strachan, 2010-2),²¹¹⁷ 'my' and 'your' ('I-you') concerns,²¹¹⁸ 'good' and 'evil' [God and devil] implications (cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 263-5), 'honour' and 'dishonour' (glorification) aspects (vv. 49, 50; cf. Morris, 1995: 417) and truth-concerns/claims (vv. 32, 34, 40, 44, 45, 51, 58),²¹¹⁹ are determining the controversial and antithetical factors of this dialogue. The forensic nature

²¹¹² The main themes of the dialogue in chapter eight are light and darkness dualism, life, testify, judge, know, hour, sin, from above, this world, believe, I am, word, Son of Man, truth, love, honor, glory, death, Jesus' oneness with the Father, two conflicting world-views (i.e., the world-view of Jesus rooted in Father vs. the world-view of the Jews rooted in the Abrahamic tradition), and God the father vs. Devil the father.

²¹¹³ Brown (1966: 361) is of the opinion that, "There are signs of a few editorial insertions, but on the whole there is a rather homogenous discourse. The theme of Abraham holds it together, being introduced in v. 33, continuing through 37, 39, 40, 53, 57, and closing the discourse in 58". Cf. John 8:40, 42, 44, 58-59; Gen 18:1-15. According to Calvert (1992: 6), "The name of Abraham, while occurring nowhere else in the Johannine writings, is found in John 8:31-59". Calvert (1992: 6) makes a contrast between Abraham and Jesus' opponents: *first*, they are like Abraham because they strive to kill Jesus, a messenger of God; *second*, while Abraham was known for his character, Jesus' opponents are said to be children of the devil, whose desires they fulfill; and *third*, Jesus' opponents are unlike Abraham because they do not recognise that Jesus is of God.

²¹¹⁴ Cf. Moloney, 1998: 275-6; Vincent, 1969: 173-81; Robertson, 1932: 148, 151, 155-6; Dods, 1967: 776-82.

²¹¹⁵ Calvert (1992: 6; cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 357; Millard, 1992: 1: 35-41) states that, "The name of Abraham occurring nowhere else in the Johannine writings, is found ten times in John 8:31-59. Throughout the account he points out that although the questioning Jews are descendants of Abraham in a physical sense (John 8:37), they are not so by their actions". Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 262-7; Milne, 1993: 134; Dods, 1967: 776-82; Vincent, 1969: 173-81.

²¹¹⁶ Stibbe (1993: 102) says that, "In John 8 the Sender or Originator is no longer the chief priests and Pharisees but the devil. He is the 'originator' of the plot to kill Jesus. This emerges very clearly in 8:31-59 where Jesus tells those who had believed in him that they are trying to kill him only because they are doing what their true father has been doing since the beginning of the world". See Morris, 1995: 420-1; Brown, 1966: 356, 357, 358, 360; Murray, 1987: 134, 136, 140.

²¹¹⁷ Cf. Milne, 1993: 132; Vincent, 1969: 173-81; Köstenberger, 2004: 261; Dods, 1967: 776-82.

²¹¹⁸ See Moloney, 1998: 278; Dods, 1967: 776-82; Morris, 1995: 410; Robertson, 1932: 150-1.

²¹¹⁹ Cory (1997: 114) states that, "... by structuring the narrative and dialogue units in such a way as to highlight his concern about the death of Jesus. In addition, the evangelist employs vocabulary ambiguous in some way alludes to Jesus' death (e.g., 'the hour', 'lifting up', and 'glorified')". Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 261; Brown, 1966: 354-68; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 133-43; Moloney, 1998: 275-87.

²¹²⁰ Van der Watt (2005: 160; cf. 167) states that, "One of the major literary features in the gospel is the use of forensic language. This is an effective way of convincing people, since the forensic process involves people and eventually judgment on a particular issue. What is of interest is of course the performative nature of the forensic passages". Stibbe (1993: 99; cf. Lincoln, 1994: 3-30) says that, "John 8:12-59 can be classed as judicial discourse".

the narrative slowly turns the reader's attention toward the climactic juridical aspects of the story (chaps. 18-19). The narrative techniques (cf. Windisch, 1993: 47; Court, 1997: 20-41)²¹²¹ used within vv. 31-59 provide persuasive effects in the activity of reading the text.²¹²² All the above mentioned aspects provide dramatic flavour to the entire dialogue (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-91; Brant, 2004: 130, 143, 146, 178).²¹²³ The dialogue, thus, has all the ingredients to interlock the reader with the incidents and themes of the sub-slot in a dynamic way.

9.3. Meso-Analysis

In order to understand the overall dialogue structure of 7:1-8:59 one is required to know about the slot development within the episode (cf. Ellis, 1984: 7; Haenchen, 1984: 3-32).²¹²⁴ The dialogues as a whole have their own individual characteristics; but they also share common properties with other dialogues of the gospel (cf. Warren and Wellek, 1955: 7).²¹²⁵ Dodd (1960: 345-6; cf. Stibbe, 1994: 111) describes John 7-8 as the 'central block of the book of Signs'.²¹²⁶ As the central block of the BS, John 7-8 puts a strong foundation for the events that are unfolding in the BG. The first slot (7:1-9) is basically developing among the family members of Jesus.²¹²⁷ The contrasting features like Jesus' work versus works of the world, act in public versus act in secret, and belief versus unbelief are significant elements within the dialogue.²¹²⁸ Other aspects like Jesus' time, revealing himself to the world, and the activities of testifying are also significant ones.²¹²⁹ In slot #

because the language and imagery is thoroughly forensic in character. Aristotle wrote that 'Forensic speaking either attacks or defends somebody' (*Rhetorica* 1.3.10-11). This is clearly happening in John 8:12-59. Jesus is both defending himself and attacking his accusers".

²¹²¹ Motyer (1997: 158) says that, "The final ἐγὼ εἰμὶ ('I am') in 8:58 illustrates the way in which the reader is taken through a 'learning curve' by this dialogue. This is the last of five or six occasions on which Jesus has used this expression of himself in this chapter". Cf. vv. 12, 18, 23, 24, 28. The doubt attaches to v. 23, ἐγὼ ἐκ τῶν ἄνω εἰμὶ.

²¹²² Cf. Dunne, 2000: 1-19; Van der Watt, 2005: 146-8; Lategan, 2009: 457-84.

²¹²³ Wendland (1992: 101) says that, "There are basically two types of narrative account: dramatic and non-dramatic. In the case of the latter, the narrator simply recounts a sequence of actions as they occurred (or in recorded form) with no special attempt to distinguish one event or situation from another. Dramatic narrative, on the other hand, is decidedly different. Here the narrator emphasises, to a greater or lesser degree, a certain conflict which both motivates the events that he or she is telling or writing and directs them to some sort of resolution".

²¹²⁴ Thatcher (2001: 277) says that, "... it is likely that the Johannine dialogues possess a higher compositional unity than is typically supposed, and further likely that these dialogues emerged from a community seeking to establish its boundaries on the basis of common knowledge".

²¹²⁵ Lieu (2005: 171-183; cf. Wenham, 1998: 102) discusses about John's distinctive way of writing.

²¹²⁶ In the analyses of Dodd (1960: 345-6) and Stibbe (1994: 111-2), the seven-controversy dialogues which make up this block of material follow an introductory section in 7:1-10 and a brief scene in 7:11-13, as follows: *first*, 7:14-24 (Moses and Christ); *second*, 7:25-36 (the claims of Jesus); *third*, 7:37-44 (the claims of Jesus); *fourth*, 7:45-52 (the claims of Jesus); *fifth*, 8:12-20 (the claims of Jesus); *sixth*, 8:21-30 (the claims of Jesus); and *seventh*, 8:31-59 (Abraham and Christ). But the two sections at the beginning (7:1-10, 11-13) can exist as independent dialogue-slots as we discussed above.

²¹²⁷ It can be considered as a 'family dialogue'. Refer to Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31.

²¹²⁸ A dualistic trend is adopted all through the dialogue, i.e., darkness and light, from above and from below, and God the father and devil the father.

²¹²⁹ Cf. Lindars, 1972: 281-5; Morris, 1995: 349-55; Lenski, 1942: 528-37; Hoskyns, 1947: 310-2; Köstenberger, 2004: 228-31; Lightfoot, 1957: 174-6.

1, the contrasting identities and ideologies of Jesus and his brothers are incorporated in a *suggestion-negative reaction-positive action dialogue* pattern (cf. Giblin, 1980: 197-211). The second slot (7:10-13) is put in an *implicit* (7:11-12a) and *explicit* (7:12b-13) dialogue form. Jesus' destination and identity are the major topics of discussion (cf. Keener, 2003: 708-11). In the third slot (7:14-36), the conflicting world-views of Jesus and his interlocutors are expressed by way of a *religious-theological* and *challenge-and-riposte dialogue* format (cf. Meeks, 1972: 19; Strachan, 1941: 199-200).²¹³² In the fourth slot (7:37-44), Jesus' prophetic role as the Messiah and its effect upon his interlocutors is expressed by way of an *enigmatic pronouncement* (7:37-44) which is then turned to a *community dialogue* (7:40-42; cf. Wai-Yee, 2001: 11; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 18). A *forensic type of dialogue* is featured in 7:45-52 (as the fifth slot) where a juridical communion concerning Jesus is taking place at the official levels of Judaism (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 309). In the sixth slot (8:12-20), a *challenge-and-riposte/statement-misunderstanding-clarification dialogue* develops by way of incorporating the contrasting identities of Jesus and his brothers (cf. Ellis, 1984: 7-8; Strachan, 1941: 205-8).²¹³⁵ The contrasting identities of the interlocutors based on the conflicting religious-theological world-views are obvious within the framework of this episode.

The dialogue of the seventh slot (8:21-59; cf. vv. 21-30 and 31-59) further exemplifies the *statement-misunderstanding-clarification, challenge-and-riposte, controversy and confrontation* aspects.²¹³⁶ It incorporates *forensic aspects* and *religious-theological elements* of the leading tenets. The contrasting identities of the interlocutors and the development of themes like truth, freedom, and conflicting kingship are fairly included within the dialogue scene (cf. Dodd, 1968: 41-57; Quast, 1991/1996: 69-71). The above mentioned elements of all the slots contribute in one way or the other toward the dramatic development, characterization, forensic procedure, and the thematic progression of the larger *theological dialogue* of 7:1-8:59 (cf. Hakola, 2005: 131; see Table 79).²¹³⁷ The

²¹³⁰ Moreover, the interlocutors' talk units maintain a *fifty-fifty interaction*. See Strachan, 1941: 198-9; Tenney, 1952: 123-6; Blomberg, 2001: 131-2; Dodd, 1963: 322-5; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 3-7.

²¹³¹ Though mostly formed in narratives, the three utterance units recorded are significant within the slot. Cf. Tenney, 1952: 126; Dodd, 1960: 345-54; Carson, 1991: 309-10; Tenney, 1948: 131-2; Hoskyns, 1947: 312-3.

²¹³² Thematically, the dialogue is *Messianic-oriented, glory/hour-focused, belief-unbelief-distinctive*, and *conflictive*. See Lightfoot, 1957: 174-81; Köstenberger, 2004: 232-9; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 9-21.

²¹³³ The utterance-units of the fourth slot (7: 37-44) are framing a 'monologue-turned-community dialogue' case of the first slot, it has a *narrative-dialogue-narrative-dialogue-narrative chiasmic formula*. Cf. Tenney, 1952: 123-4; Westcott, 1958: 123-4; Lindars, 1972: 297-303; Blomberg, 2001: 136-8; Bruce, 1983: 181-4.

²¹³⁴ See Strachan, 1941: 203-4; Morris, 1995: 381-5; Lenski, 1942: 583-91; Bruce, 1983: 184-6; Hoskyns, 1947: 312-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 119-23.

²¹³⁵ Neyrey (2007: 153) states that, "One may profitably read this narrative in terms of several challenge-and-riposte exchanges". Cf. Morris, 1995: 387-94; Köstenberger, 2004: 253-7; Lenski, 1942: 592-609; Temple, 1966: 34; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 40-5; Westcott, 1958: 127-30.

²¹³⁶ Meeks (1972: 64) states that, "... the prediction to 'the Jews' has been made a second time (8:21), as their 'misunderstanding' recognises that Jesus' 'departure' means his death: 'He will not kill himself (8:22)'. Cf. Strachan, 1941: 208-17; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 50-67; Moloney, 1998: 265-87; Brown, 1966: 34-35.

²¹³⁷ The controversial nature of the dialogue is designed by way of bringing the OT figures (i.e., Moses and Aaron) into the centre of the conversation.

theological dialogue genre of the text includes elements of other genres for greater effect. At the pragmatic level of the dialogue, the linguistic phenomenon of the narrator helps the reader to be interlocked with the text (cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 23-55). While the content and the form of the seven-slot dialogue section work as indicated above, the dialogue functions to inform, persuade, motivate, and direct the reader in order to maintain a strong bond with Jesus. The dialogue²¹³⁸ includes lively passages of *stichomythia*²¹³⁹ (speeches, stitched together) that helps to progress the plot-structure of the episode reader-friendly (cf. Press, 2007: 64).

The overall dialogue of the episode is wrapped up in narratorials. Stibbe (1993: 96) opines that, "Chapters 7 and 8 of John's story form a unit within this section of the Gospel. This is first of all suggested by the *inclusio* between 7:1-13, where Jesus goes secretly (ἐν κρυπτῷ, v. 4) to the temple, and 8:59 where Jesus is said to slip away (ἐκρύβη) from the temple grounds".²¹⁴⁰ Another *inclusio* is formed between 7:1 and 8:59 as the episode begins with a mention about the 'killing attempt' and ends with a 'stoning attempt' (see Stibbe, 1993: 88-103). The revelatory aspects of the religious-theological dialogue are placed within this *violence-ridden inclusio* between 7:1 and 8:59.²¹⁴¹ Also, an *inclusio within an inclusio* is developed between 8:12 and 8:58.²¹⁴² As Stibbe (1993: 97) says that, "There is a further *inclusio* between the use of the divine name in 8:12 ('*I am* the light of the world') and its appearance again, in the absolute usage, at 8:58 ('Before Abraham was born, *I am*')".²¹⁴³ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 176-7) state that,

It needs to be stressed that the oratorial style of the Johannine Jesus is that of a revealer. In many respects, he is an alien figure who, when he speaks, constantly probes beyond surface meanings to the more profound significance latent in words. Because of this, it is important for interpreters to trace with care the development of Jesus' speech in John, analysing his rhetorical moves both in the dialogues and monologues. This involves both examining the quantity and character of Jesus' speech, and also noting how the questions and statements of his dialogue partners play their part in a particular discourse.

²¹³⁸ Cf. Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95; Majercik, 1992: 185-8; Denning-Bolle, 1992: 69-84.

²¹³⁹ Baldick (1990: 211) defines *stichomythia* as "a form of dramatic dialogue in which two disputing characters answer each other rapidly in alternating single lines, with one character's replies balancing (and often partially repeating) the other's utterances. This kind of verbal duel or 'cut and thrust' dialogue was practised more in ancient Greek and Roman tragedy than in later drama, although a notable English example occurs in the dialogue between Richard and Elizabeth in Shakespeare's *Richard III* (Act IV, scene iv)".

²¹⁴⁰ Painter (1993: 290) is of the opinion that, "The theme of seeking to kill or arrest Jesus runs through these chapters, 7:1, 11, 20, 25, 30, 32, 44; 8:37, 40, 59. It is in the context of the plot to kill Jesus that the theme of hiddenness and openness/revelation is developed, 7:4, 10, 26-27, 28-29".

²¹⁴¹ While the narrator places the revelatory dialogue sections within the violence-ridden episode, one can identify the function of the larger irony in the episode.

²¹⁴² Kermode (1986: 7; cf. Martyn, 1968: xvi; Conway, 2002: 486) says that, "God in the Old Testament and his Son in the New have special rights over the verb 'to be'; for them to say 'I am' is to assert divinity In the Greek the words translated as 'Before Abraham was, I am' really mean 'Before Abraham *became*' (came into being)".

²¹⁴³ Stibbe (1993: 98-9) comments about the form in the following way, "John 8:12-59 is another example of a 'trial scene' If the form of John 8:21-59 is really that of the trial scene, then the implicit commentary throughout this text supports the narrator's defence of the divinity of Jesus and the concomitant satire of the diabolism of the Jews". Cf. Namita, 2000: 39-46; Maniparampil, 2004: 276; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 223-4; Von Wahlde, 2010: 419.

What Bailey and Vander Broek say is true when we analyse the overall development of dialogue in the episode. The narrator describes Jesus as an eloquent speaker in comparison to his counterparts. But the significance of Jesus' utterances cannot be understood until one examines them in relation to the utterances of his dialogue partners.²¹⁴⁴ The central conflict of the dialogue is circumscribed by the fatherhood of Jesus and of his interlocutors. Two world-views are in tension with each other in the episode, the world-view of Jesus rooted in his Father vs. the world-view of the Jews rooted in the Abrahamic genealogical connection and the Law of Moses (cf. Watt, 2005: 128b). While the Jews claim about themselves that they are the children of Abraham (and also of God), Jesus declares that they are the children of devil (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 8).²¹⁴⁵ From the beginning of the dialogue Jesus connects himself closely to God the Father. His claims about his relationship with the Father infuriate the Jews to call him 'demon-possessed' (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 92-3). The gestures and movements of the characters supplement the dialogue for rhetorical effect.²¹⁴⁶ While Jesus takes control of the dialogue sections, the Jews are diminished to the level of listeners.²¹⁴⁷ Their responses and actions are mostly without emotional depth, shallow in description, emotional in attitude, verbally abusive, unknowing and misunderstood in sense, and violence-ridden (cf. Hakola, 2005: 131; Von Wahlde, NTS: 33-60).²¹⁴⁸ The narrator's attempt to foreground the character of Jesus provides a transforming effect in the process of reading the text (cf. Thiselton, 1992: 1-10).

Jesus' talk with the Jews leads them from one misunderstanding to the other.²¹⁴⁹ As usual, Jesus uses 'double meaning' as one of the interlocking dialogical phenomena. The episode shows Jesus' authoritative and revelatory sayings expressed by way of the first person singular

²¹⁴⁴ Though Jesus is in control of the dialogues, the interlocutors' various behavioural patterns, dialogic expressions, postures, and gestures are decisive in determining the meaning of Jesus' utterances. The meaning of Jesus' movements are more expressible only in terms of the meaning of his interlocutors' words and movements. This is one of the striking features of Johannine dialogues in general and the dialogue in 7:1-8:59 in particular.

²¹⁴⁵ Cf. Morris, 1995: 403-21; Moloney, 1998: 265-87; Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 50-69; Kanagaraj, 2005: 284, 287; Lindars, 1972: 323-37; Bultmann, 1971: 312-28. John presents Jesus' eternal relationship with the Father as a point over against the Jewish conceptual understanding of Abraham as their father. In the dialogue section, Jesus, with the Jews takes examples from their own context to prove his points (i.e., the reference to the Law in John 8:17-18, Abraham elsewhere in the pericope). Also see Carson, 1991: 346-58; Tenney, 1948: 146-51.

²¹⁴⁶ Harrop (1992: 14) says that, "In theatre, gesture movement rule over words". This is true with John as the gestures and movements of the characters give force to their words.

²¹⁴⁷ Koester (2002: 133) opines that, "Debates over Jesus' identity in John 7-8 illustrate how the evangelist sought to subvert the opponents of Jesus".

²¹⁴⁸ Morson (2006: 561) says that, "The speaker takes into account the listener's status, knowledge, beliefs, and anticipates possible responses; and shapes his or her utterance accordingly. If the listener is preset and begins visibly to the utterance while it is being uttered, the speaker may shift its tone, style, and choice of words as it proceeds. In a real sense, then, the speaker and listener are co-creators of the utterance during each dialogue. In the Johannine dialogues it is true that Jesus and his interlocutors are co-creators of the dialogues. See Lindars, 1972: 37; Lenski, 1942: 528-673; Hoskyns, 1947: 310-49; Lightfoot, 1957: 174-96.

²¹⁴⁹ Especially this phenomenon is noticeable in the seventh slot of the episode (cf. 8:22, 27, 33, 43, 53). Jesus leaves the Jews at the level of misunderstanding, doubtful, exclaimed, believing, protesting, and by the end of the episode is angry and violent. Wead (1970: 69) says that, "The misapprehension is usually based upon the inability of the Jews to grasp any more than a mere earthly truth".

pronoun (i.e., “I” or “I am”; cf. 8: 12 and 58; cf. Borchert, 1996: 278).²¹⁵⁰ The forensic language and court-room type dialogue of the episode prove the controversial nature of the conversation. Rapid thematic development of the episode is yet another distinguishing feature of the dialogue.²¹⁵¹ The Jews express varied reactions to Jesus as their world-view and theological positions are challenged by him.²¹⁵² The narrator’s attempt to expose the attitude and character of the Jews in turn results in the disclosure of Jesus’ glory to the reader.²¹⁵³ The failure of Jesus’ interlocutors is highlighted with a view of exposing his glory.

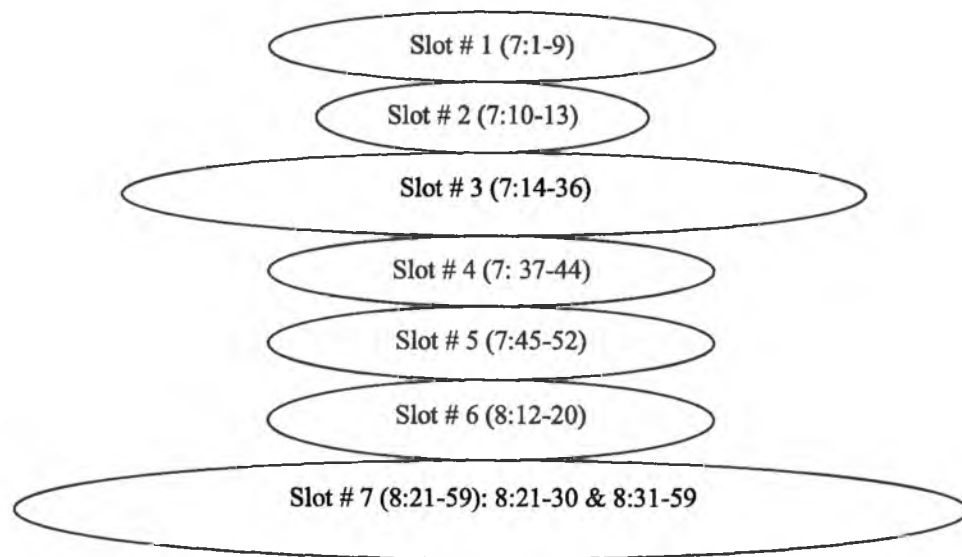


Diagram 42: The slot-development of the episode

A paradigmatic reader may identify the overall shape of the episode as designed in the diagram above (Crossan, 1967: 100-3; see Diagram 42). While slots 1, 4, 5 and 6 are almost the same in

²¹⁵⁰ This tendency is more obvious in chap. 8:12 and 58. Cf. Strachan, 1941: 205, 214-5; Painter, 1993: 301-2; Lenski, 1942: 592-7, 670-1; Hoskyns, 1947: 330, 349. The expression “I am the light of the world” is further taken over in the succeeding dialogue (cf. 9:1-41). Moreover, the author attempts to prove the greatness of Jesus not only above Jacob (cf. 4:12) but also above Moses and Abraham. Jesus’ references to the Jewish Law and characters like Abraham are apologetical in character in order to prove his cause. Also see Lindars, 1972: 323-37; Bultmann, 1971: 312-28; Morris, 1995: 403-21; Tenney, 1948: 146-51; Westcott, 1958: 133-40.

²¹⁵¹ Cf. Hendriksen, 1961: 2: 3-69; Dodd, 1960: 345-54; Tenney, 1948: 129-51; Temple, 1952: 123-52.

²¹⁵² While his opponents respond to Jesus in a minimal way through raising some questions and accusations, Jesus responds back to them through extensive answers for their questions. Cf. Carson, 1991: 346-58; Dodd.

²¹⁵³ Cf. *Characters* are known by what others say about them. What do the disciples or authorities say about Jesus, for instance? Or what does the narrator say about him? Characters are also known by the environment or setting in which they work and play. Characters are also known by their position within society. Are they part of the structures of power and domination? Or are they at the margins of society—unseen and invisible? Many biblical characters are either at the margins of society or at the centers of power and influence, either rising to prominence or falling to oblivion. The narrator of the story is completely taking sides with the protagonist. For Jesus the protagonist, his interlocutors are ‘folly’ in character. Through highlighting their weaknesses, Jesus attempts to reveal his own glory. See Resseguie, 2005: 121-133; Crossan, 1967: 100-3.

size,²¹⁵⁴ slot # 2 is predominantly narratorial and comparatively shorter in size than a slots.²¹⁵⁵ Among the first six slots, slot # 3 stands out as a longer one. In this section, O Moses is referred with significance (see 7:19, 22, 23).²¹⁵⁶ Slot # 7 is the longest among dialogue-slots and is significant with references to another key figure of the OT (i.e., A 8:33, 37, 39a, 39b, 40, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58; cf. Dodd, 1968: 41-57; Crossan, 1967: 100-3).²¹⁵⁷ diagram shows (see Diagram 42) the episode as a whole has a “cross on an altar” shape²¹⁵⁸ slots 1, 4, 5 and 6 are almost the same in size (with an exception of slot # 2) and slot # 3 is as well as the leading slot until 8:20. This provides a “cross shaped” format for the episode the section 8:21-59, the largest slot of the episode, remains as an “altar” for the entire episode Robertson, 1932: 117-59; see Diagram 42). This significant shape of the episode has contributed toward the events leading to the crucifixion and glorification of Jesus the protagonist. The dramatic plot structure²¹⁵⁹ of the episode keeps a *beginning* (7:1-9)-*middle* (7:10-8:30) (8:31-59) sequence (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 83; Crossan, 1967: 100-3).²¹⁶⁰ The narrator performs the writing by incorporating several strata of dialogues in which pleasure and unity coalesced (cf. Warren and Wellek, 1955: 21; Bowles, 2010: 1-30). In short, the poetic conventions, organisation, and unity of the dialogic episode persuade the reader toward a traditional lifestyle (cf. Lausberg, 1998: 2-403; Kennedy, 1984: 3-38).²¹⁶¹

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
Slot # 1 7:1-9	Content: contrasting identities and ideologies of Jesus and his brothers // Form: <i>suggestion-negative reaction-positive action</i> // Function: the reader is well-informed about the conflict and characterization of the episode right at the outset	The <i>suggestion-negative reaction-positive action</i> format of the dialogue discusses the subject matter of the contrasting identities of Jesus and his brothers
Slot # 2 7:10-13	Content: the destination and the identity of Jesus // Form: <i>implicit and explicit</i> dialogues // Function: the narrator persuades the reader to take side with Jesus “the good man”	The destination and the identity of Jesus are discussed by way of the <i>implicit</i> and the <i>explicit</i> dialogues
Slot # 3 7:14-36	Content: the conflicting worldviews of Jesus (one who is sent by the Father) and his interlocutors (the expectants of the coming Messiah) // Form: a <i>religious-theological controversy</i> in a <i>challenge-and-</i>	The conflicting worldviews of Jesus and his interlocutors are discussed by way of a <i>challenge-and-dialogue</i> . The dialogue maintains

²¹⁵⁴ Slot # 1 has two utterance units (7:3b-4 and 6b-8) of almost equal size; slot # 4 has two utterances of the (7:37b-38 and 41b-42) plus two minor utterance units (7:40b and 41a); slot # 5 has three major utterances (51, 52a) and two minor utterance units (7:45b and 46b); and slot # 6 has one central utterance unit (7:14f) medium-sized units (7:12b, 13b and 19b), and one minor unit (7:19a).

²¹⁵⁵ Three shorter utterance units within the four-verse narrative space make the second slot the shortest in the total of 23 verses and 9 utterance units). Cf. Crossan, 1967: 100-3.

²¹⁵⁶ All the references about Moses are from the mouth of Jesus. Slot # 3 is narrated within chap. 7:14-36.

²¹⁵⁷ Slot # 7 is narrated within chap. 8:21-59 (within a total of 39 verses and 19 utterance units).

²¹⁵⁸ The shape of the dialogue as a “cross on an altar” shows its unique development slot by slot.

²¹⁵⁹ Tan (1993: 28-9; cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53; Hess-Lüttich, 1985: 199-214) discusses the stylistics of aesthetic form, rigor in stylistics, and about the need of valid-reading. See Flanagan, 1981: 264-70; Domeris: 35; Ricoeur, 1985: 7-8; Brooks, 1984: 3-5; Barry, 1970: 10-51; Cobley, 2001: 4-6; Hågerland, 2003: 309-22.

²¹⁶⁰ When discussing about the Platonic dialogues Press (2007: 5) states, “Plato is a storyteller. Each dialogue with a beginning, middle and end, in which the central problem is conceptual, and most of what happens in the dialogue is conversation”. In John’s dialogues, the *beginning-middle-end* sequence is well maintained.

²¹⁶¹ See also Black, 2001: 2; Mitchell, 2006: 615-33; Nichols, 1971: 130-41; Crossan, 1967: 100-3.

	<i>riposte</i> format // Function: the antithetical development of the dialogue persuades the reader to take sides with Jesus (one who is sent by the Father)	with a <i>religious-theological controversy</i>
Slot # 4 7:37-44	Content: revelation of Jesus' prophetic role as the Messiah and its effect upon his interlocutors // Form: <i>an enigmatic pronouncement turned to a community dialogue</i> // Function: it motivates the reader to look forward with greater anticipation to understand the role of Jesus ('the great proclaimer')	The <i>enigmatic pronouncement turned to a community dialogue</i> reveals Jesus' prophetic role as the Messiah
Slot # 5 7:45-52	Content: a judicial conversation concerning the righteous (Jesus) at the official levels of Judaism // Form: a <i>forensic dialogue</i> at the rear of stage // Function: the reader is informed about the acceptance and rejection of Jesus at the official levels	The <i>forensic type of dialogue</i> at the rear of stage discusses about the righteous (Jesus) at the official levels of Judaism
Slot # 6 8:12-20	Content: Jesus' identity 'from above' and the Pharisaic lack of understanding about him as they look at him from their narrow perspective // Form: <i>challenge-and-riposte</i> and <i>statement-misunderstanding-clarification</i> // Function: the reader is further informed about the antithetical progression and its resultant conflict and characterization	The <i>challenge-and-riposte</i> and the <i>statement-misunderstanding-clarification</i> formats of the dialogue again discusses the contrasting identities of Jesus and his interlocutors
Slot # 7 8:21-59	<p><u>Sub-Slot One (8:21-30)</u> Content: a contrast: the Jews' <i>unknowing</i> of the identity and the destination of Jesus versus Jesus' <i>knowing</i> of their identity and destination // Form: <i>statement-misunderstanding-clarification</i> // Function: the dialogue persuades the reader to believe and to look forward as a challenged personality</p> <p><u>Sub-Slot Two (8:31-59)</u> Content: truth, freedom, and conflicting kinships // Form: <i>controversial/conflictive, forensic, antithetical, religious-theological</i> // Function: the dialogue directs the reader toward the final forensic character of the Gospel</p>	<p><u>Sub-Slot One (8:21-30)</u> The <i>statement-misunderstanding-clarification</i> format of the dialogue further deals with the contrasting identities of Jesus and his interlocutors</p> <p><u>Sub-Slot Two (8:31-59)</u> The final part of the episode deals with the topics of truth, freedom, and conflicting kinships. It takes the forms of a <i>controversy</i> and a <i>forensic</i> and <i>religious-theological dialogue</i></p>

Table 79: The summary of the dialogue of the ninth episode

Episode Ten

A Dramatic Dialogue Leading to a Monologue and a Community Dialogue (9:1-10:21)

10.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

The narrative unit at 9:1-10:21 is one of the most significant episodes in John's Gospel (cf. Painter, 1993: 305). It is positioned as the second largest unit (after 7:1-8:59) within the Feast of Tabernacles narratives.²¹⁶² The episode does not end in chap. 9 itself (i.e., v. 41; cf. Bennema, 2009: 136-44); rather it extends up to 10:21.²¹⁶³ The episode in 9:1-10:21 has three main parts: first, a *seven-scene dramatic dialogue* (9:1-41; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 105);²¹⁶⁴ second, a *metaphorical monologue* (10:1-18);²¹⁶⁵ and third, a concluding *community dialogue* (10:19-21; cf. Dodd, 1960: 354-8; Hengstenberg, 1965/1980: 476-525).²¹⁶⁶ Moloney (1998: 291) is of the view that,

... 9:1-10:21 must be regarded as a literary unit The man born blind moves toward full sight in 9:1-34, but this journey is also marked by the growing 'blindness' of the Pharisees. As the once blind man has a final encounter with Jesus (vv. 35-38), so do the Pharisees (9:39-10:21). The length of the section dedicated to Jesus' words to the Pharisees and the importance of his self-revelation as the messianic Good Shepherd (10:14-18) call for a separate treatment.

As Moloney indicates, the dialogue section in chap. 9:1-41 is closely knit together with the subsequent metaphorical monologue (i.e., 10:1-18).²¹⁶⁷ It has not only a proleptic, but also has an

²¹⁶² The Feast of Tabernacles events are framed in two larger units (7:1-8:59 and 9:1-10:21). Out of these two units, 7:1-8:59 is the largest and 9:1-10:21 is the second largest. Stibbe (1993: 103-4) says that, "The progression from chap. 8 to chap. 9 is a smooth one. In chap. 8, Jesus declares, 'I am the light of the world' (8:12). Now, in chap. 9, that thought is developed as he provides two forms of illumination. At the literal and physical level, Jesus brings light to the eyes of the man born blind At the metaphorical and spiritual level, Jesus brings illumination to the man's understanding".

²¹⁶³ After 9:41, the monologue section in 10:1-18 and the community dialogue in 10:19-21 continue without a narratorial break. Cf. Hengstenberg, 1965/1980: 476-525.

²¹⁶⁴ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 205; cf. Martyn, 1968: 26-7; Resseguie, 2001: 140) states that, "The literary unity of John 9 is highlighted by the dramatic development of the episode in *seven scenes* (9:1-7, 8-12, 13-17, 18-23, 24-34, 35-38, 39-41)". On the basis of the change of characters and development of the story, the episode can be divided into seven minor dramatic scenes/dialogic slots. Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 331-51; Bultmann, 1971: 329-58; Morgan, 1933: 162-72; Carson, 1991: 359-79; Dods, 1967: 782-7; Vincent, 1969: 181-8; Lindars, 1972: 337-52.

²¹⁶⁵ Keener (2003: 775) also interprets 10:1-21 as an extension of 9:1-41. Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 358-91; Morgan, 1933: 173-7; Witherington, 1995: 186-90; Robertson, 1932: 173-83; Bruce, 1983: 223-9.

²¹⁶⁶ Robertson (1932: 183) says that, "The direct reference of *palin* (again) may be to 9:16 when the Pharisees were divided over the problem of the blind man". See Vincent, 1969: 195; Schnackenburg, 1980: 301-3; Dods, 1967: 792.

²¹⁶⁷ Brown (1966: 376) argues that, "after the long and intricate discourses of 7-8, chap. 9 provides a pleasant interlude". Brown (1966: 376) comments on the time-factor of chap. 9 in the following way, "John gives no precise

analeptic connection with the previous episodes,²¹⁶⁸ especially with chap. 5 (cf. Neyrey 168-9). As Stibbe states, the presentation of the narrative in chap. 9 is strikingly similar to the narrative of the invalid in chap. 5.²¹⁶⁹

The exact setting of the episode is not clearly mentioned in the text; but it can only be from the extended Feast of Tabernacles block (7:1-10:21).²¹⁷⁰ A *topographical setting* is by the narrator at the climax of chap. 8 as he tells that Jesus ‘went out of the temple’ (ἐξῆλτο τοῦ ἱεροῦ, v. 59; cf. Keener, 2003: 776; Quast, 1991/1996: 71-2).²¹⁷¹ Köstenberger (2001) states that, “‘And as he passed by’ (καὶ παράγων) is the only instance of this description in John. The scene may have taken place in the area south of the temple at one of the two ‘outer gates’”.²¹⁷² Köstenberger’s argument makes the reader conscious about a setting ‘outside the temple’ but ‘not far away from the temple’.²¹⁷³ In the first slot, as Jesus ‘walked along following things take place: he sees a man blind from birth (εἶδεν ἄνθρωπον τυφλὸν ἐκ γένε

dating for the healing, and the next indication of time will be that of the Feast of Dedication, three months later (John 10:22).

²¹⁶⁸ The theme of ‘Jesus as the light of the world’ in the previous episode (8:12) is carried over by the narrator in the current episode (9:5; cf. v. 39).

²¹⁶⁹ Stibbe (1993: 104-5) opines that, “The form of chap. 9 is very similar to that of chap. 5. The two ‘works’ are closely related” There are many parallels between the two stories. Some of them are: *first*, the man’s history (v. 1; blind from the birth)//the man’s history (5:5; 38 years); *second*, both of them were socially marginalized (v. 8; cf. 5:8); *third*, Jesus initiates the healing in both incidents (v. 6; cf. 5:6); *fourth*, the setting of the miracle: Siloam (v. 7)//Bethesda (5:2); *fifth*, in both cases the setting is in Jerusalem (v. 7; cf. 5:2); *sixth*, both miracles happen on the Sabbath (v. 14; cf. 5:9); *seventh*, in both cases Jesus slips out of the picture (v. 8; cf. 5:10); *eighth*, Sabbath-violation charge (v. 16; cf. 5:10); *ninth*, the Jews interrogate the healed ones (v. 15; cf. 5:12); *tenth*, Jesus’ whereabouts are unknown by the healed ones (v. 12; cf. 5:13); *eleventh*, Jesus reappears to find the healed man (v. 35; cf. 5:14); *twelfth*, the relationship between suffering and sin is explored (v. 3; cf. 5:14); *thirteenth*, the healing results in a kind of trial: (of the man; v. 13-34)/(of Jesus; 5:16); and *fourteenth*, the miracle is described in detail (v. 4; cf. 5:17).

²¹⁷⁰ Mlakuzhyl (1987: 205) opines that, “. . . John 9 is distinguished from the preceding episode by means of *place*, since, unlike Jesus’ teaching and controversy with the Jews in John 7-8, his findings and healing of the blind man does not happen in the temple but elsewhere”. Moloney (1998: 300) is of the opinion that, “No break occurs between 9:41 and 10:1. The final encounter between Jesus and the man born blind in 9:35-38 is matched by the encounter between Jesus and the Pharisees in 9:39-10:21. Jesus addresses an unnamed audience in v. 39, and the Pharisees respond in v. 40. Their words, in turn, generate Jesus’ reflection that begins in v. 41 but develops in the discourse of 10:1-18. It is on the basis of 9:39-41 that 10:1-21 unfolds”.

²¹⁷¹ As it happens by the end of the festival and during a time in which Jesus was out of reach of the people, the *setting* can be attributed to the scene. But at the same time as the event occurs in Jerusalem and somewhere outside the temple it has a *topographical setting* too. Blomberg (2001: 150) remarks that, “Presumably, Jesus is teaching in the temple but is still in Jerusalem (v. 1). This could be later on during the last day of the feast or a few days afterwards, prior to Galileans’ return to the north”. Schnackenburg (1980: 238) says that, “V. 39 is directly with Jesus’ departure from the Temple. The theme of Jesus the Light of the World, developed in the healing of the blind man, as is made clear in the explanatory sayings at the beginning (v. 5) and end (v. 39), stands in the word of revelation at 8:12”. See also Robertson, 1932: 159; Barrett, 1978: 352-6; Bultmann, 1971: 200; Lindars, 1972: 336-7, 344-7; Carson, 1991: 358-61; Schnackenburg, 1980: 242-3; Beasley-Murray, 1997: 19; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 334; Ryle, 1957: 176-7; Dods, 1967: 782-5.

²¹⁷² The phrase καὶ παράγων at the beginning of the first slot (vv. 1-7) connects the entire episode with the preceding episode. Pryor (1992: 40-1) states that, “As for its place in the sequence of John’s discourses, the healing of the blind man and the controversy with the Pharisees are well placed, coming as they do after the great affirmation of Jesus as the light of the world”.

²¹⁷³ The indications in the narrative about the fear of the healed man’s parents being excommunicated from the synagogue (9:22) can make the reader think of a faraway place. Martyn (1968: 30) finds that the incident happens in the “street in Jerusalem near the Temple”.

1),²¹⁷⁴ spits on the ground, makes mud with saliva and spreads the mud on his eyes (v. 6),²¹⁷⁵ and sends him to the pool of Siloam (τὴν κολυμβήθραν τοῦ Σιλωάμ, v. 7a; cf. v. 11b).²¹⁷⁶ The narratorial expression ‘then he went and washed and came back able to see’ (ἀπῆλθεν οὖν καὶ ἐνίψατο καὶ ἦλθεν βλέπων, v. 7b) extends the geographical expanse of the episode.²¹⁷⁷ The second slot (vv. 8-12) invites the readers’ attention toward the ‘neighbours’ (γείτονες, v. 8a) and ‘those who had seen him before’ (οἱ θεωροῦντες αὐτὸν, v. 8a).²¹⁷⁸ The exact setting of their conversation is not mentioned. But one can conjecture about the location on the following grounds: *first*, the place where the person regularly sits and begs (v. 8); *second*, where Jesus spits, makes mud with saliva, spreads on his eyes, and commands him to go (v. 6); and *third*, where the healed person returns from Siloam (v. 7b; cf. Hengstenberg, 1965/1980: 476-525). Here the *topographical nature* of the setting is once again used by the narrator.

The setting of the dialogue further moves from the *topographical* in the second slot (vv. 8-12) to a *judicial* one in the third slot (vv. 13-17).²¹⁷⁹ The indication about the healing on the Sabbath day in v. 14 presents a *religious/cultic setting*.²¹⁸⁰ The calling of the parents by the Jews and the *question-and-answer exchange* in the fourth slot (vv. 18-23) add more judicial flavours to the incident (cf. Strachan, 1941: 220).²¹⁸¹ The fifth slot (vv. 24-34) begins with the narratorial statement of ‘calling the man for a second time’ (Ἐφώνησαν τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἐκ δευτέρου ὃς ἦν τυφλὸς, v. 24) and ends with his being driven out (ἐξέβαλον αὐτὸν ἔξω, v. 34).²¹⁸² This invites the reader toward the third *judicial setting* (i.e., after the second call of the man) of the episode (i.e., after the third and the fourth slots; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 167-74).²¹⁸³ Painter (1993: 314-5) states that, “The Jewish situation is indicated by the controversies which concern the Sabbath, the Law of Moses and the Christ . . .

²¹⁷⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 238) says that, “The brief indication of place, ‘as he passed by’, fits the final words of 8:59, ‘and went out of the temple’, but could also have originally belonged to another context. The καὶ connection attaches the passages closely to the previous section (cf. 2:13; 10:40), but it is also possible that a story from the σημεια-source would have begun with καὶ (cf. 2:1; 4:46b; 6:17a)”.

²¹⁷⁵ See the Greek expression: ἔπιψεν χαμᾶ καὶ ἐποίησεν πλῆν ἐκ τοῦ πύσματος καὶ ἐπέχρισεν αὐτοῦ τὸν πλῆν ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς (v. 6b).

²¹⁷⁶ Jesus’ departure from the temple, his interaction with the disciples and also with the blind man on the way is brought to the notice of the reader. Her/his attention is suddenly drawn to the geographical location, the pool of Siloam (v. 7a; cf. v. 11b). The narrative moves between the temporal, cultic and geographical settings like the wayside, the pool of Siloam, the synagogue, and the temple. Cf. Powell, 1962: 198-9; Bultmann, 1971: 332-3; Ryle, 1957: 163-4; Morgan, 1933: 163-7; Barrett, 1978: 358-9; Bruce, 1983: 210.

²¹⁷⁷ The indications of the temple (8:59), the wayside (v. 8), the pool of Siloam (v. 7), and the synagogue (v. 22) show the dramatic movement of the characters within the episode. Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 242-4; Witherington, 1995: 181; Vincent, 1969: 183; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 331; Powell, 1962: 198-9; Ryle, 1957: 163-4.

²¹⁷⁸ Haenchen (1984: 2: 38) opines that, “The mention of the neighbours indicates that the blind man now healed seeks out his old quarters. We now learn that he earlier used to sit at an appropriate spot (in Acts 3:10 it is the door of the temple) and beg”. See Ryle, 1957: 164-6; Barrett, 1978: 359; Robertson, 1932: 163.

²¹⁷⁹ The text says, “they brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind” (v. 13). Here, readers can think about the development of the dialogue in the Sanhedrin context.

²¹⁸⁰ In both vss. 9 and 14 of chap. 5, it is indicated that the miracle was performed on a Sabbath. See Haenchen, 1984: 2: 39; Schnackenburg, 1980: 247; Morris, 1995: 430-2; Ryle, 1957: 170-1; Strachan, 1941: 219.

²¹⁸¹ The typical usage of John for ‘putting out of the synagogue’ is ἀποσυνάγωγος. Cf. Dods, 1967: 785-6; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 340-4; Barrett, 1978: 360-2; Köstenberger, 2004: 287-9.

²¹⁸² Quast (1991/1996: 75) says that, “With exemplary courage, the blind man who was healed stands up to the grilling and insists that Jesus has come from God. In anger, the authorities call him a sinner like Jesus and drive him out”. Cf. Brown, 1966: 374-5, 380-1; Dods, 1967: 786-7; Robertson, 1932: 166-70; Moloney, 1998: 294-5.

²¹⁸³ Dodd (1960: 354) says that, “Chap. 9 contains a narrative—that of the healing of the blind at Siloam—and a dialogue in the form of a trial scene”.

The development of the dialogue section reflects the situation of conflict with the synagogue. The situation of the conflict is evident in the episode through the narration of the excommunication of the man from the synagogue. The sixth slot (vv. 35-38) introduces a setting where Jesus and the 'man who was driven out' meet and converse (see Strachan, 1941: 220-1).²¹⁸⁴ The seventh slot (vv. 39-41) develops in the same setting where Jesus and the 'man who was driven out' had a conversation (cf. Dodd, 1963: 327-8). In the final slot, the dialogue slowly drifts from the *Jesus-and-healed-man exchange* (vv. 35-38) to a *Jesus-and-Pharisees conversation* (vv. 40-41; cf. Keener, 2006: 2185). The monologue section in 10:1-18 can be considered as an extension of the seventh slot. Finally, the larger Tabernacles episode ends with another setting where a community develops among the Jews (10:19-21; Hengstenberg, 1965/1980: 476-525; see Table 80).²¹⁸⁶

Slots	Episode 10: John 9:1-41; 10:1-21 (See the notes on each slot)
Slot # 1 ²¹⁸⁸	<i>Disciples</i> (to Jesus): 'Ραββί, τίς ἡμαρτεν, οὗτος ἢ οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ, ἵνα τυφλὸς γεννῇ; <i>Jesus</i> : Οὐτε οὗτος ἡμαρτεν οὔτε οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ, ἀλλ' ἵνα φανερωθῇ τὰ ἔργα τοῦ θεοῦ αὐτῷ. ἡμᾶς δεῖ ἐργάζεσθαι τὰ ἔργα τοῦ πέμψαντός με ἕως ἡμέρας· ἔρχεται νῦν ὁ ὥρᾳ οὐδεὶς δύναται ἐργάζεσθαι. ὅταν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ᾤ, φῶς εἰμι τοῦ κόσμου. <i>Jesus</i> (to the blind man): Ὑπαγε νίψαι εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν τοῦ Σιλωάμ
Slot # 2 ²¹⁸⁹	<i>People</i> (among themselves): Οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ καθημένος καὶ προσαιτῶν; <i>Some People</i> : Οὗτός ἐστιν <i>Some others</i> : Οὐχί, ἀλλὰ ὅμοιος αὐτῷ ἐστιν <i>Healed man</i> : Ἐγὼ εἰμι <i>People</i> : Πῶς [οὖν] ἠνεώχθησάν σου οἱ ὀφθαλμοί; <i>Healed man</i> : Ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ λεγόμενος Ἰησοῦς πηλὸν ἐποίησεν καὶ ἐπέχρισέν μου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς καὶ εἶπέν μοι ὅτι Ὑπαγε εἰς τὸν Σιλωάμ καὶ νίψαι· ἀπελθὼν οὖν καὶ νιψάμενος ἀνέβλεψα <i>People</i> : Ποῦ ἐστιν ἐκεῖνος; <i>Healed man</i> : Οὐκ οἶδα
Slot # 3 ²¹⁹⁰	<i>Healed man</i> (to the Pharisees): Πηλὸν ἐπέθηκέν μου ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς, καὶ ἐνιψάμην καὶ βλέπω <i>Some Pharisees</i> : Οὐκ ἔστιν οὗτος παρὰ θεοῦ ὁ ἄνθρωπος, ὅτι τὸ σάββατον οὐ τηρεῖ <i>Other Pharisees</i> : Πῶς δύναται ἄνθρωπος ἁμαρτωλὸς τοιαῦτα σημεῖα ποιεῖν; <i>Pharisees</i> : Τί σὺ λέγεις περὶ αὐτοῦ, ὅτι ἠνεώξεν σου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς; <i>Healed man</i> : Προφήτης ἐστίν
Slot # 4 ²¹⁹¹	<i>Jews</i> (to the parents): Οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς ὑμῶν, ὃν ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι τυφλὸς ἐγεννήθη· οὖν βλέπει ἄρτι; <i>Parents</i> : Οἶδαμεν ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς ἡμῶν καὶ ὅτι τυφλὸς ἐγεννήθη· πῶς δὲ νῦν οὐκ οἶδαμεν, ἢ τίς ἠνοιξεν αὐτοῦ τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς ἡμεῖς οὐκ οἶδαμεν· αὐτὸν ἐρωτῇ ἡλικίαν ἔχει, αὐτὸς περὶ ἑαυτοῦ λαλήσει

²¹⁸⁴ See Schnackenburg, 1980: 252-4; Köstenberger, 2004: 294-5; Bruce, 1983: 219-20; Moloney, 1998: 29.

²¹⁸⁵ The utterance unit at v. 39 is a narratorial piece that helps Jesus to transfer his dialogue from the healed man to the Pharisees. Cf. Moloney, 1998: 300-2; Brown, 1966: 380-2; Ryle, 1957: 191-5; Barrett, 1978: 365; Rober, 1971-2; Köstenberger, 2004: 295-6.

²¹⁸⁶ The narrator says that, "Jesus used this figure of speech with them" (10:6). See Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 171-2; Powell, 1962: 210-20; Dods, 1967: 788-92; Strachan, 1941: 221-7; Morris, 1995: 446-57.

²¹⁸⁷ Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 366-7; Ryle, 1957: 227-32; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 172; Barrett, 1978: 377-8.

²¹⁸⁸ Slot # 1 (9:1-7) has narratorials at vv. 1, 6, 7b. The utterance units are at vv. 2, 3-5, and 7a.

²¹⁸⁹ Slot # 2 (9:8-12) has eight utterance units (see vv. 8b, 9a, 9b, 9c, 10, 11, 12a, and 12b). The narratorial role at v. 8a.

²¹⁹⁰ Slot # 3 (9:13-17) has 5 utterance units (cf. vv. 15b, 16a, 16b, 17a, and 17b). The narratorial role at vv. 13 and 17b.

²¹⁹¹ Slot # 4 (9:18-23) has three utterance units (see vv. 19, 20-21, and 23). The slot as a whole begins with narratorial units at vv. 18 and 22.

	<i>Parents:</i> Ἡλικίαν ἔχει, αὐτὸν ἐπερωτήσατε
Slot # 5 ²¹⁹²	<p><i>Jews (to the healed):</i> Δὸς δόξαν τῷ θεῷ· ἡμεῖς οἶδαμεν ὅτι οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἁμαρτωλὸς ἐστίν</p> <p><i>Healed man:</i> Εἰ ἁμαρτωλὸς ἐστίν οὐκ οἶδα· ἐν οἷδα ὅτι τυφλὸς ὢν ἄρτι βλέπω</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Τί ἐποίησέν σοι; πῶς ἤνοιξέν σου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς;</p> <p><i>Healed man:</i> Εἶπον ὑμῖν ἥδη καὶ οὐκ ἠκούσατε· τί πάλιν θέλετε ἀκοῦειν; μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς θέλετε αὐτοῦ μαθηταὶ γενέσθαι;</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Σὺ μαθητὴς εἰ ἐκείνου, ἡμεῖς δὲ τοῦ Μωϋσέως ἐσμέν μαθηταί· ἡμεῖς οἶδαμεν ὅτι Μωϋσεὶ λελάληκεν ὁ θεός, τοῦτον δὲ οὐκ οἶδαμεν πόθεν ἐστίν</p> <p><i>Healed man:</i> Ἐν τούτῳ γὰρ τὸ θαυμαστόν ἐστιν, ὅτι ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε πόθεν ἐστίν, καὶ ἤνοιξέν μου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς. οἶδαμεν ὅτι ἁμαρτωλῶν ὁ θεὸς οὐκ ἀκούει, ἀλλ' ἐάν τις θεοσεβῆς ἢ καὶ τὸ θέλημα αὐτοῦ ποιῇ τούτου ἀκούει. ἐκ τοῦ αἰῶνος οὐκ ἠκούσθη ὅτι ἠνέωξεν τις ὀφθαλμούς τυφλοῦ γεγεννημένου· εἰ μὴ ἦν οὗτος παρὰ θεοῦ, οὐκ ἡδύνατο ποιεῖν οὐδέν</p> <p><i>Jews:</i> Ἐν ἁμαρτίαις σὺ ἐγεννήθης ὅλος καὶ σὺ διδάσκεις ἡμᾶς;</p>
Slot # 6 ²¹⁹³	<p><i>Jesus (to the healed):</i> Σὺ πιστεύεις εἰς τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου;</p> <p><i>Healed man:</i> Καὶ τίς ἐστίν, κύριε, ἵνα πιστεύσω εἰς αὐτόν;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Καὶ ἑώρακας αὐτὸν καὶ ὁ λαλῶν μετὰ σοῦ ἐκεῖνός ἐστιν</p> <p><i>Healed man:</i> Πιστεύω, κύριε</p>
Slot # 7 ²¹⁹⁴	<p><i>Jesus:</i> Εἰς κρίμα ἐγὼ εἰς τὸν κόσμον τοῦτον ἦλθον, ἵνα οἱ μὴ βλέποντες βλέπωσιν καὶ οἱ βλέποντες τυφλοὶ γένωνται</p> <p><i>Pharisees:</i> Μὴ καὶ ἡμεῖς τυφλοὶ ἐσμεν;</p> <p><i>Jesus:</i> Εἰ τυφλοὶ ἦτε, οὐκ ἂν εἶχετε ἁμαρτίαν· νῦν δὲ λέγετε ὅτι Βλέπομεν, ἡ ἁμαρτία ὑμῶν μένει</p>
Monologue ²¹⁹⁵	<p><i>Jesus:</i> Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὁ μὴ εἰσερχόμενος διὰ τῆς θύρας εἰς τὴν αὐλήν τῶν προβάτων ἀλλὰ ἀναβαίνων ἀλλαχόθεν ἐκεῖνος κλέπτης ἐστίν καὶ ληστής· . . . ἄλλοτρίῳ δὲ οὐ μὴ ἀκολουθήσουσιν, ἀλλὰ φεύχονται ἀπ' αὐτοῦ, ὅτι οὐκ οἶδασιν τῶν ἄλλοτρίων τὴν φωνήν. (10:1-5) . . . and . . . Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι ἡ θύρα τῶν προβάτων . . . οὐδεὶς αἶρει αὐτὴν ἀπ' ἐμοῦ, ἀλλ' ἐγὼ τίθημι αὐτήν ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ. ἐξουσίαν ἔχω θεῖναι αὐτήν, καὶ ἐξουσίαν ἔχω πάλιν λαβεῖν αὐτήν· ταύτην τὴν ἐντολὴν ἔλαβον παρὰ τοῦ πατρός μου. (10:7b-18)</p>
Community Dialogue ²¹⁹⁶	<p><i>Many Jews:</i> Δαιμόνιον ἔχει καὶ μαίνεται· τί αὐτοῦ ἀκούετε;</p> <p><i>Others:</i> Ταῦτα τὰ ῥήματα οὐκ ἔστιν δαιμονιζομένου· μὴ δαιμόνιον δύναται τυφλῶν ὀφθαλμούς ἀνοίξαι;</p>

Table 80: The dialogue text of 9:1-41/10:1-21

²¹⁹² There are seven utterance units in slot # 5 (see vv. 24b, 25, 26, 27, 28-29, 30-33, and 34). The only narratorial with intent is at v. 24a.

²¹⁹³ The 6th slot (vv. 35-38) has four utterance units (vv. 35b, 36, 37, and 38a). The significant narratorials at this pericope are at vv. 35a and 38b.

²¹⁹⁴ Slot # 7 has three utterance units (vv. 39, 40b, and 41).

²¹⁹⁵ The section at chapter 10:1-18 is almost fully maintained in monologue form except for the narratorial interruption at vv. 6-7a.

²¹⁹⁶ The community dialogue at the end of the episode (10: 19-21) has two utterance units (see vv. 20 and 21).

10.2. Micro-Analysis

10.2.1. Slot One (9:1-7)²¹⁹⁷

The first slot (vv. 1-7) is wrapped up in narratives.²¹⁹⁸ The dialogue development of the slot is viewed as follows:²¹⁹⁹ *first*, the disciples begin the dialogue by addressing Jesus as 'Ραββί (2a) and there follows a question, "who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind" (2b, 'Ραββί, τίς ἥμαρτεν, οὗτος ἢ οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ, ἵνα τυφλὸς γεννηθῇ; cf. Moloney, 1998: 290; Brant, 2004: 109);²²⁰⁰ *second*, Jesus' response to the question is descriptive (vv. 3-5). He talks about the revelatory implications of God's work in the life of the blind man (v. 3; cf. Wallace, 1996: 326; Gench, 2007: 64-6; Borchert, 1996: 313);²²⁰¹ about the urgency of performing God's work (v. 4; cf. Morris, 1995: 426; Köstenberger, 2004: 281; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 205; Resseguie, 2001: 139); and about his own function as a *worker* by way of a metaphorical utterance, "I am the light of the world" (v. 5, φῶς εἰμι τοῦ κόσμου, cf. Brant, 2004: 109; Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 425);²²⁰² and *third*, Jesus' *action-oriented* command to the blind man, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (v. 7a, Ὑπαγε νίψαι εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν τοῦ Σιλωάμ, cf. Bernard, 1929: 2: 328-9; see Table 81).²²⁰³

²¹⁹⁷ Moloney (1998: 290) divides vv. 1-7 into two parts: *first*, 9:1-5: Jesus and the disciples; and *second*, 9:6-7: the man born blind. But we consider vv. 1-7 as a single slot as it progresses from the same setting (cf. Brant, 2004: 28; Duke, 1985: 118; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 205; Witherington, 1995: 180-1).

²¹⁹⁸ See v. 1 and vv. 6-7, excluding v. 7a. Bernard (1929: 2: 323) comments that, "This (Καὶ παράγων εἶδεν αὐτὸν) is an abrupt beginning, but the introductory καὶ is thoroughly Johannine. παράγειν does not occur again in the Gospel; but cf. 1 John 2:8, 17".

²¹⁹⁹ It is an *action-oriented* dialogue where Jesus' conversation with the disciples is in focus leading up to the healing of the blind man (vv. 1-7). Brown (1966: 377; cf. Moloney, 1998: 292) says that, "After setting the scene, the evangelist narrates the miracle with modest brevity (vv. 6-7), but the interest is in the interrogations".

²²⁰⁰ Beasley-Murray (1987: 154) states that, "The question of the disciples is typical of the outlook of the ancients (cf. Job's friends and their addresses to him)". Von Wahlde (2010: 424) points out that, "It was a common belief among Jews that physical infirmity was often a result of sinful behavior. Blindness, as was the case with the man born blind, was often looked upon as a result of sin". For more details about the proximity usage of the demonstrative pronoun οὗτος, refer to Wallace, 1996: 326. Also read about the consecutive or resultative use of the conjunction καὶ (or result conjunction; cf. Wallace, 1996: 473, 677). Cf. Brown, 1966: 371, 376-7; Gench, 2007: 64-6; Brant, 2004: 109; Köstenberger, 2004: 281; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 205; Resseguie, 2001: 139.

²²⁰¹ The "works of God" are viewed as a collective singular—a united group (cf. Wallace, 1996: 399). Moloney (1998: 291; cf. Brown, 1966: 371-2; Gench, 2007: 64-5) says that, "God is to reveal his works in the events of the man that are about to be told".

²²⁰² Köstenberger (2004: 281) is of the opinion that, "'Work of God' is literally 'works of God'. The thought is that even evil ultimately contributes to the greater glory of God. This is true supremely of human sinfulness in Christ's crucifixion (e.g., 12:28, 37-41; 17:1, 5; cf. Rom 8:28)". Morris (1995: 426) expounds that, "It is in this context also of the fact that the works in question do not originate here on earth. They are heavenly works that we must do. And there is an urgency about doing them, for the opportunity will not always be present when they are coming: the remorseless passage of time removes the present opportunity".

²²⁰³ Köstenberger (2004: 281; cf. Morris, 1995: 426) says that, "The statement 'I am the light of the world' is made in the present incident with the Feast of Tabernacles (cf. 8:12)". Maniparampil (2004: 279) states that, "This declaration is illustrated through the healing of the man born blind, and in the subsequent interrogation".

²²⁰⁴ The word "Siloam" literally means a discharge (of waters), and thus does not mean "the Sent One". The consonants in the verb "to send" are in the name. See Moloney, 1998: 297; cf. Schneiders, 1999: 151; Moloney, 1998: 297; Köstenberger, 2004: 283; Maniparampil, 2004: 281-2.

John 9:1-7	Overview
<p>v.1: Καὶ παράγων εἶδεν ἄνθρωπον τυφλὸν ἐκ γενετῆς. v.2: καὶ ἠρώτησαν αὐτὸν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ λέγοντες· ῥαββί, τίς ἥμαρτεν, οὗτος ἢ οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ, ἵνα τυφλὸς γεννηθῇ; v.3: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς· οὔτε οὗτος ἥμαρτεν οὔτε οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ, ἀλλ' ἵνα φανερωθῇ τὰ ἔργα τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν αὐτῷ. v.4: ἡμᾶς δεῖ ἐργάζεσθαι τὰ ἔργα τοῦ πέμψαντός με ἕως ἡμέρας ἐστίν· ἔρχεται νύξ ὅτε οὐδεὶς δύναται ἐργάζεσθαι. v.5: ὅταν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ᾧ, φῶς εἰμι τοῦ κόσμου. v.6: ταῦτα εἰπὼν ἔπτυσεν χαμαὶ καὶ ἐποίησεν πηλὸν ἐκ τοῦ πτύσματος καὶ ἐπέχρισεν αὐτοῦ τὸν πηλὸν ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς v.7: καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ὕπαγε νίψαι εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν τοῦ Σιλωάμ (ὃ ἐρμηνεύεται ἀπεσταλμένος). ἀπῆλθεν οὖν καὶ ἐνίψατο καὶ ἦλθεν βλέπων.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 1-8 is comprised of three utterance units (vv. 2b, 3b-5, 7a); out of the three utterance units one is of the disciples (v. 2b) and two are of Jesus (vv. 3b-5, 7a);</p> <p>(2) While the disciples' question in v. 2b is reported as the first utterance in the slot, Jesus' two utterances (vv. 3b-5, 7a) are reported as his response to the disciples (vv. 3b-5) and his utterance to the blind man (v. 7a);</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 1, 6, 7b) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 2a, 3a, 7a).</p>

Table 81: The dialogue of 9:1-7 within the narratorial framework

In v.1, the narrator delineates the manner in which Jesus and his disciples see the blind man on the way. Subsequently, in v. 6, he describes the three activities of Jesus: “he spat on the ground” (ἔπτυσεν χαμαί), “made mud with the saliva” (ἐποίησεν πηλὸν ἐκ τοῦ πτύσματος),²²⁰⁵ and “spread the mud on the man’s eyes” (ἐπέχρισεν αὐτοῦ τὸν πηλὸν ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς).²²⁰⁶ In v. 7b, similarly, the narrator points out the three activities of the blind man: “he went” (ἀπῆλθεν), “washed” (ἐνίψατο), and “came back able to see” (ἦλθεν βλέπων).²²⁰⁷ The blind man’s first two activities enable him to experience the third.²²⁰⁸ In the first slot, Jesus and his disciples are those who engaged in the dialogue (cf. Gench, 2007: 64-6; Smith, 1999: 191-2; see vv. 2, 3-5, 7a). The blind man remains as a silent interlocutor but obedient to Jesus’ command (cf. v. 7b).²²⁰⁹ The content of the slot emphasises Jesus as the light of the world.

The narrator of John 9:1-41 uses characteristic vocabulary which distinguishes it from the immediately preceding and following subsections (i.e., 7:1-8:59 and 10:1-21).²²¹⁰ But as usual,

²²⁰⁵ Köstenberger (2004: 283; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 139) observes that, “Jesus’ use of saliva (9:6; cf. 9:11, 14-15) is reminiscent of the healing of the deaf and mute man in the Decapolis (Mark 7:33) and of the blind man in Bethsaida (Mark 8:23). According to some Jewish rabbis, the saliva of the firstborn had healing properties (*b. B. Bat. 126b*). In the surrounding pagan culture, however, saliva frequently was associated with magical practices, so that many rabbis seem to have condemned the use of saliva”. E.g., Rabbi Aqiba (ca. 130 CE) in *t. Sanh.* 12.10.

²²⁰⁶ Von Wahlde (2010: 425-6) says that, “This is the only Johannine miracle where an unrelated medium is used in the working of the miracle. In the changing of the wine and the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, the medium is part of the miracle itself”. See Resseguie, 2001: 139; Moloney, 1998: 292; Brown, 1966: 372; Morris, 1995: 427.

²²⁰⁷ Helms (1988: 92) says that, “In John’s account Jesus made clay of his own spittle and anointed (ἐπέχρισεν) the eyes of the blind man, who later says, ‘I saw again’ (ἀνέβλεψα) (9:11)”. See Martyn, 1968: 25; Gench, 2007: 65-6; Powell, 1962: 198-9.

²²⁰⁸ Bernard (1929: 2: 329) observes that, “Apparently, he had some confidence in the power of Jesus to heal him, for he did not hesitate, as Naaman did when bidden to bathe in the Jordan”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 283-4; Morris, 1995: 427-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 155-6; Brown, 1966: 372-3.

²²⁰⁹ Duke (1985: 119) says that, “Most significant is the simple fact of Jesus’ gift—not restoration—of sight. He takes all the initiative; the blind man’s only part is obedience—‘he went and washed and came back seeing’”.

²²¹⁰ At the same time see the table in Mlakuzhyil (1987: 205, 206-7) in order to know the distinctive vocabulary of John 9: 1-41 from 7:1-8:59 and 10:1-21. And also see the distinction of vocabulary in 10:1-21 from 9:1-41 and 10:22-42. Martyn (1968: 24) considers vv. 1-7 as a miracle story.

John 9:1-7 employs dialogue as an important means in order to convey the message.²²¹¹ The verbal exchange between Jesus and his disciples and the subsequent command is viewed as follows (cf. Witherington, 1995: 180-1). In the slot, literary devices like *antiparallelism* (vv. 4), *'day' and 'night' dualism* (v. 4; cf. Vanderlip, 1975: 133-52), *"I am" sayings* (v. 5; cf. Gench, 2007: 65-6; Borchert, 1996: 314),²²¹² *explanatory note* (v. 7; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 283-4),²²¹³ and *symbolism* (cf. Koester, 1995: 1-31)²²¹⁴ are employed. The interlocutors use utterance forms like *respectful question* (by the disciples, v. 2),²²¹⁵ *work-centered utterances* (vv. 3-4),²²¹⁶ *agency-talk* (v. 4), *revelatory proposal* (v. 3) and a *revelatory utterance* (v. 5), and, finally, a *command* (by Jesus, v. 7a; cf. Bernard, 1929: 2: 326-9; Smith, 1999: see Table 82).²²¹⁷ The implied nature of the dialogue is obvious in v. 7b as Jesus' final command to the man motivates him to "go", "wash", and "come back able to see".²²¹⁸

Utterance	Form	Content
Disciples	Respectful question	Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?
Jesus	Work-centered utterances, agency talk, dualism, warning, revelatory proposal, revelatory utterance	Neither the blind man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world
Jesus	Command	Go, wash in the pool of Siloam

Table 82: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 9:1-7

²²¹¹ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 240; also see p. 241; cf. Witherington, 1995: 180) says that, "the conversation between Jesus and his disciples is essentially Johannine in style".

²²¹² Resseguie (2001: 118; cf. Ball, 1996: 80-93) states, "Unlike the flickering and fading lights of this world, Jesus is a truly illuminating light that gives life to the world". Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 242; Vanderlip, 1975: 65-71; Powell, 1962: 198; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 333; Painter, 1993: 307.

²²¹³ Cf. Vincent, 1969: 183; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 243; Barrett, 1978: 358-9; Brown, 1966: 372-3.

²²¹⁴ Maniparampil (2004: 282; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 244; Schneiders, 1999: 151-2; Wiles, 1999: 19; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 335-36) says that, "This is symbolic of the redemption that Jesus is bringing". The monologue section at 10:1-21 is an extension of 9:1-41 the literary features of this piece of writing are mentioned. Many of them are rhetorical in nature. The monologue section also employs *Amen . . . Amen* (vv. 1, 7) and *I am sayings* (vv. 7, 9, 11, 14). Painter (JSNT: 41-2) recognizes the symbolic aspects of John 9 as follows: "In John 9 the healing of the blind man has become the basis of a symbolic interpretation. But the lengthy symbolic discourse or monologue such as those found in chaps. 3, 5, and 6. In John 9 Jesus' teaching is confined to vv. 3-5, 7, 39, 41. Of this material vv. 3 and 7 are derived from the traditional miracle story. Verses 4 and 5 belong to the primary interpretation while v. 41 comes from the secondary interpretation. It is these verses which provide the key to symbolic interpretation which is dramatised in the dialogues of vv. 13-41".

²²¹⁵ Their way of question shows "an intimate relation of discipleship" and a "close connection" (cf. Bernard, 1929: 324). See Von Wahlde, 2010: 424; Gench, 2007: 64-5; Bruce, 1983: 208; Lindars, 1972: 341-2; Carson, 1984: 19; Morris, 1995: 424-5; Robertson, 1932: 160; Bultmann, 1971: 330-1; Barrett, 1978: 356.

²²¹⁶ Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 333; Bultmann, 1971: 331; Powell, 1962: 198; Keener, 2003: 778.

²²¹⁷ Whereas disciples' talk is described as "asked . . . saying . . ." (v. 2, ἠρώτησαν . . . λέγοντες . . .) form, Jesus' talk is described with "answered" (v. 3, ἀπεκρίθη) and "said/saying" (v. 7, εἶπεν) formulas.

²²¹⁸ The sending of the man is reminiscent of the scene in 2 Kings 5:10-13 where Elisha sends Naaman to the Jordan to be cured of his leprosy. Cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 426; Gench, 2007: 66; Morris, 1995: 427-8; Carson, 1984: 365; Bruce, 1983: 210; Lindars, 1972: 344.

Jesus' expressions like 'blind' (v. 3), 'day' and 'night' (v. 4), and 'light of the world' (v. 5) are used with symbolical connotations (cf. Talbert, 1992: 158-9).²²¹⁹ The dramatic nature of *telling and showing* is a strengthening feature of the dialogue.²²²⁰ The themes like *revealing of God's work* by Jesus (φανερῶθῃ τὰ ἔργα τοῦ θεοῦ) and his invitation to *work the work* of God (ἐργάζεσθαι τὰ ἔργα, vv. 3-4) point out the attention of the reader toward praxis-orientation (cf. Borchert, 1996: 312-4).²²²¹ Moreover, Jesus gives a *warning* concerning a time *when no one can work* (ὅτε οὐδεὶς δύναται ἐργάζεσθαι, v. 4).²²²² Thus a *work-centered dialogue* is at focus here.²²²³ From the overall point of view, one can observe in John 9:1-7 seams of a *sign-oriented/work-centered*,²²²⁴ *question-and-answer sequential* and *challenge-and-riposte* dialogical development.²²²⁵

After analysing the content and form, let's look at the function of 9:1-7 in the following way. The question of the disciples and the subsequent answer of Jesus (vv. 2-5) can be considered as a prologue for the entire seven-slot episode (cf. Witherington, 1995: 180). Similarly, the last question and the following answer (vv. 40-41) turn to be a coherent epilogue (cf. Segovia, 2007: 180-1).²²²⁶ The question in v. 2 can be considered as a motivating factor for the entire dialogical episode and the subsequent monologue in 10:1-18 (cf. Bernard, 1929: 2: 324). The narrator's intention to reveal the identity of Jesus is strategically fulfilled by way of the question of the disciples. In John, dialogues turn to actions, actions influence further dialogues, conflicts develop, and through this characterisation is actualised (cf. Genette, 1980: 182-5). This strategy is used by the narrator right from the beginning of chap. 9.²²²⁷ The pronouncement of Jesus in v. 5, ὅταν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ᾧ, φῶς εἰμι τοῦ κόσμου, can be considered as the punch line of the entire episode²²²⁸ as it works analeptically with the previous episode (8:12) and its efficacy continues to rest until the end of chap. 9 (cf. Borchert, 1996: 314; Smith, 1999: 191-2).²²²⁹ Bultmann (1971: 343) opines that,

²²¹⁹ Also some of his activities like spitting on the ground, making mud, and spreading on the man's eyes have symbolical connotations within the slot. Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 333-4; Vanderlip, 1975: 133-52; Wiles, 1960: 22-40; Robertson, 1932: 161; Von Wahlde, 2010: 429; Dods, 1967: 783.

²²²⁰ Here Jesus is not simply a talker but also a performer of signs. Similarly, Jesus' utterances enabled the man 'go', 'wash', and 'come back able to see'.

²²²¹ Von Wahlde (2010: 429) considers "works" as the characteristic terminology used for miracles. Also see Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 333; Robertson, 1932: 161.

²²²² These expressions from the mouth of Jesus affirm two things: *first*, the urgency of "doing the will of God" at the present time, and *second*, that Jesus was not merely a dialoguer but also a practitioner.

²²²³ Moloney (1998: 291) states that, "Until now Jesus has indicated that he does not perform his works on his own authority (cf. 3:11-21, 31-36; 5:19-30). He now includes his disciples in his work: 'We must work the works of the one who sent me' (v. 4a). They are associated with the task of Jesus, to work the works of the one who sent him".

²²²⁴ Read more about John 9:1-41 as a 'sign' at Wiles, 1960: 55-6; Milne, 1993: 136-7.

²²²⁵ For more details about the role of different forms of dialogues in Plato's works, refer to Press, 2007: 66.

²²²⁶ Beasley-Murray (1987: 151) opines that, "A sign is narrated in vv. 1-7, the consequences of which are reported in the rest of the chapter. The essential action of the miracle is recounted in vv. 1, 6, 7, with a dialogue set in vv. 2-5". Cf. Resseguie, 2001: 139-41; Martyn, 1968: 24-30; Gench, 2007: 64-6; Witherington, 1995: 180-1.

²²²⁷ Kemp (2000: 240) opines that, "The miracle of the healing is a further sign pointing to Jesus and to the urgency of acclaiming him for the person he really is. The urgency was no less real for those first century readers for whom John wrote. It remains so for readers today". Refer to Martyn, 1968: 24-30; Gench, 2007: 64-6; Schneiders, 1999: 151-6; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 238-45; Von Wahlde, 2010: 430-3.

²²²⁸ Also of the entire set of Tabernacles events. Cf. Gaebelein, 1936: 170.

²²²⁹ Ball (1996: 82) says that, "Both the ἐγώ εἰμι and the accompanying theme of light are resumed in chap. 9 and thus draw the conclusions of chap. 8 into the sign of chap. 9". Cf. Milne, 1993: 138-9; Morris, 1995: 426; Kanagaraj and Kemp, 2000: 240; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 155; Köstenberger, 2004: 282; Brown, 1966: 372, 376-7.

“The ἐγὼ εἰμι announces that in Jesus we are confronted with the light of the revelation of Jesus’ action in vv. 6-7 can be considered as a practical application of what he already spoke in the previous verses.²²³¹ The first slot ends by stating that “he (the blind man) went and was came back able to see” (v. 7b).²²³² According to Neyrey (2007: 170), “The man born blind sees and then sees enough to acknowledge his cure as a sign. Appropriately, Jesus makes remarks earlier that describe the event’s function as a ‘sign’: ‘. . . that God’s works might be revealed in him’ (9:3) and ‘We must work the works of him who sent me’ (9:4)”.²²³³ The structure of dialogues and actions of the characters is once again employed here by the narrator.²²³⁴ In the narrative-and-reader dialogue these aspects rhetorically function in order to foreground the action (cf. Court, 1997: 9-86; Powell, 1990: 19-21).²²³⁵ In the present episode, the action of Jesus and the subsequent obedience of the blind man leads to an array of dialogic sections later on the beginning stage itself the narrator generates a kind of curiosity in the reader about the subsequent happenings (cf. Moore, 1989: 71-107; Chandler, 2002/2007: 175-209). The suspenseful narrative is sustained until Jesus meets the healed man and his subsequent dialogue with the Pharisees (cf. vv. 35-41). This aspect provides dramatic features for the story (cf. Tan, 1993; Elam, 1980: 135-207).²²³⁶

10.2.2. Slot Two (9:8-12)

The *second slot* (vv. 8-12) introduces an altogether different setting.²²³⁷ The main interlocutors are the healed man and ‘the neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar’ (οἱ γείτονες καὶ οἱ θεωροῦντες αὐτὸν τὸ πρότερον ὅτι προσαίτης).²²³⁸ Though the blind man is now a subject of other interlocutors’ speech in the first slot,²²³⁹ in vv. 8-12, as a healed person

²²³⁰ Resseguie (2001: 130) says that, “The primary characteristic of ὁ κόσμος in John is that it is a place of need of light. Jesus has come to give light to the world (8:12; 9:5; 12:46); to save the world (3:17; 12:47); to take away the sin of the world (1:29)”. Cf. Kanagaraj and Kemp, 2000: 240; Vanderlip, 1975: 133-52; Milne, 1993: 138.

²²³¹ Von Wahlde (2010: 426) observes that, “It was not unusual for spittle to be used in the healing of eyes. See Barrett, 1978: 358; Keener, 2003: 1: 780-1; Gaebele, 1936: 170-2; Moloney, 1998: 292; Milne, 1993: 139.”

²²³² Moloney (1998: 292) states that, “The man responds unquestioningly. Radical response to the word indicated by the use of four verbs: he went, he washed, he came back seeing (v. 7b: ἀπῆλθεν οὖν καὶ ἐλθὼν βλέπων)”. See Milne, 1993: 139; Gaebele, 1936: 171-2; Köstenberger, 2004: 283-4; Brown, 1966: 372, 376-7.

²²³³ Neyrey (2007: 170; cf. Gaebele, 1936: 169-70) further says that, “This healing, then, has to do with the normal functions of signs”. Also see Wiles, 1960: 55-6; Milne, 1993: 136-7; Murray, 1987: 154-6; Morris, 1995: 424-8; Brown, 1966: 372, 376-7.

²²³⁴ About the dynamism between narrative literature and argumentative discourse, refer to Van Aarde, 2009: 383-5; Stibbe, 1994: 152.

²²³⁵ About the narrative discourses and the role of the reader, refer to Van Aarde, 2009: 383-5; Stibbe, 1994: 152.

²²³⁶ Martyn (1968: 26-27; cf. Brant, 2004: 28) treats the chapter (nine) as a dramatic expansion of the healing in vv. 1-7. For further details about the role of drama in John, refer to Parsenios, 2010: 10-47.

²²³⁷ While in the first slot, Jesus, his disciples and the blind man are present, in the second slot, the healed man and those who had seen him before, are the main interlocutors. Martyn (1968: 30) considers this that develops near the man’s home.

²²³⁸ Keener (2003: 783) says that, “The neighbours recognise the man as the one who used to beg (9:8). (In) Jerusalem a beggar could survive, though he would invariably remain poor and dependant. Although recognized both strangers and the poor as invitations from Zeus, they emphasised charity far less than Judaism. Mark 10:46 describes Bartimaeus as a blind beggar who was sitting by the roadside. Cf. Brown, 1966: 372, 376-7; Carson, 1991: 365-6; Morris, 1995: 428; Ryle, 1957: 164-5; Blomberg, 2001: 152.

²²³⁹ In 9:1-7, we see him as a silent character; but, obedient to the words of Jesus (v. 7).

actively involves himself in a conversation with his interlocutors.²²⁴⁰ Out of the eight utterance units in vv. 8-12 (vv. 8b, 9a, 9b, 9c, 10, 11, 12a, and 12b), three are of the healed man (see vv. 9c, 11, and 12b).²²⁴¹ The semantic development of the dialogue here can be outlined as follows: *First*, as in the case of the previous slot, the dialogue begins with a surprise question raised by ‘the neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar’. At this level, the dialogue takes shape among a group of people or within a community about the healed man. Their question is that “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” (v. 8b, Οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ κατήμενος καὶ προσαιτῶν;).²²⁴² *Second*, there emerges a division among them concerning the identity of the healed man (cf. Martyn, 1968: 30-1; see Table 83). Moloney (1998: 292; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 141) says that, “The action of Jesus does not lead to the praise of God, but to σχίσμα”. Whereas some say that “It is he” (Οὗτός ἐστιν), others say that “No, but it is someone like him” (Οὐχί, ἀλλὰ ὅμοιος αὐτῷ ἐστιν).²²⁴³ *Third*, from v. 9c it shifts to a dialogue between the healed man and the divided community.²²⁴⁴ The healed man’s affirmative response here is that “I am the man” (Ἐγὼ εἰμι, cf. Resseguie, 2001: 142; Gench, 2007: 66-7).²²⁴⁵

John 9:8-12	Overview
<p>v.8: Οἱ οὖν γείτονες καὶ οἱ θεωροῦντες αὐτὸν τὸ πρότερον ὅτι προσαιτῆς ἦν ἔλεγον· οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ κατήμενος καὶ προσαιτῶν;</p> <p>v.9: ἄλλοι ἔλεγον ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν, ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· οὐχί, ἀλλὰ ὅμοιος αὐτῷ ἐστιν. ἐκεῖνος ἔλεγεν ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι.</p> <p>v.10: ἔλεγον οὖν αὐτῷ· πῶς [οὖν] ἠνεώχθησάν σου οἱ ὀφθαλμοί;</p> <p>v.11: ἀπεκρίθη ἐκεῖνος· ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ λεγόμενος Ἰησοῦς πηλὸν ἐποίησεν καὶ ἐπέχρισέν μου τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς καὶ εἶπέν μοι ὅτι ὕπαγε εἰς τὸν Σιλωὰμ καὶ νίψαι· ἀπελθὼν οὖν καὶ νιψάμενος ἀνέβλεψα.</p> <p>v.12: καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῷ· ποῦ ἐστιν ἐκεῖνος; λέγει· οὐκ οἶδα.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 8-12 is comprised of eight utterance units (vv. 8b, 9a, 9b, 9c, 10b, 11b, 12a, 12b); out of the eight utterance units five are of the ‘neighbours and those who had seen him before’ (vv. 8b, 9a, 9b, 10b, 12a) and three are of the healed man (vv. 9c, 11b, 12b);</p> <p>(2) The slot mostly works by the help of <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 8a, 9a, 9b, 9c, 10a, 11a, 12a, 12b). V. 8a provides tenets of a <i>pure narrative</i>; but that merges to the <i>formula narrative</i>.</p>

Table 83: The dialogue of 9:8-12 within the narratorial framework

²²⁴⁰ I.e., he talks about his testimony as the main ‘subject’ of the episode. See Carson, 1991: 366; Morgan, 1933: 163-4; Powell, 1962: 199-200; Lindars, 1972: 340-2; Bennema, 2009: 138; Bruce, 1983: 210-1.

²²⁴¹ The rest of the five (vv. 8b, 9a, 9b, 10, and 12a) are of the healed man’s neighbors and those who had seen him.

²²⁴² Witherington (1995: 183) says that, “The second scene, in vv. 8-12, validates that the man was healed, for naturally enough he goes to his neighbours and those who knew him before to share the news about his new condition”. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 163; Bultmann, 1971: 333; Barrett, 1978: 359; Ryle, 1957: 165; Bennema, 2009: 138; Bruce, 1983: 210-1; Dods, 1967: 784.

²²⁴³ Smith (1999: 192-93) observes that, “While there is no immediate acclamation of the crowd, a discussion of what has transpired now occurs (vv. 8-9). Typically in John, Jesus’ work results in division of opinion, and that is the case here”. Cf. Martyn, 1968: 30-1; Westcott, 1958: 146; Bennema, 2009: 138; Keener, 2003: 783-4; Morgan, 1933: 166; Robertson, 1932: 163; Bruce, 1983: 210-1; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 156.

²²⁴⁴ The dialogue transfers from the community level and develops as one between an individual and a community.

²²⁴⁵ As Vincent (1969: 184) says, the strong demonstrative (i.e., ἐκεῖνος) throws the man into strong relief as the central figure. Brant (2011: 155) suggests that, “The man now steps into the role of Jesus by asserting his identity frankly and with the phrase ‘I am [egō eimi] [he]’ (9:9), a phrase otherwise associated with Jesus”. Wallace (1996: 542-3) notes that, “The imperfect tense is rarely used just like an aorist indicative, to indicate simple past. This usage is virtually restricted to ἔλεγεν in narrative literature. Even with this verb, however, the imperfect usually bears a different nuance”. Cf. Westcott, 1958: 146; Barrett, 1978: 359; Carson, 1991: 366; Lindars, 1972: 344.

Fourth, though the first question (v. 8b) develops within the community of people, the second (Πῶς [οὖν] ἠνεώχθησάν σου οἱ ὀφθαλμοί; v. 10) is directed toward the healed man concerning the process of healing (cf. Talbert, 1992: 159; Von Wahlde, 2010: 427).²²⁴⁶ *Fifth*, though they were portrayed in a narrative format in the previous slot (i.e., vv. 6-7), here the events are brought to the notice of the reader in the form of a testimony from the mouth of the healed man (v. 9c).²²⁴⁷ In his testimony, he reduces Jesus' three activities to two,²²⁴⁸ i.e., testifying about Jesus' command to go (v. 11b; cf. 7a) and telling people about what happened (cf. Martyn, 1968: 31; Resseguie, 2001: 142).²²⁴⁹ *Sixth*, the community's third question is about the healer's whereabouts, "Where is he (Jesus)?" (Ποῦ ἐστὶν ἐκεῖνος;).²²⁵⁰ And the man's answer to their question puts an end to the entire slot. Here his response (i.e., v. 10) leads the slot to an unpleasant climax (cf. Duke, 1985: 119; see Table 83).²²⁵¹ The content of the dialogue is mostly concerning the subject matter of the identities of both the healer and the healed man.

The dual-layered development, first as a *group dialogue* (vv. 8b-9b) and then as a *group and individual dialogue* (vv. 9c-12), provides a different form for the slot (cf. Martyn, 1968: 31). While a *dialogue within a group* appears in the former part of the slot (vv. 8b-9b),²²⁵³ a *group and-answer dialogue* appears in the latter part (vv. 9c-12; cf. Press, 2007: 66).²²⁵⁴ In vv. 8b-12, the dialogue as a whole is framed within an *inclusio* between οὐχ in v. 8b and οὐκ in v. 12b. The units used in this section are: *surprise questions* (vv. 8b, 10, 12a),²²⁵⁵ *affirmation/assertion* (v. 9c),²²⁵⁶ *false affirmation/assertion* (v. 9b), *negation* (v. 9b), *testimony* (vv. 9c, 11), *clarification* (v. 12b).

²²⁴⁶ See Dods, 1967: 784; Ryle, 1957: 165; Powell, 1962: 199-200; Morgan, 1933: 166; Kanagaraj, 2005: 30.

²²⁴⁷ Witherington (1995: 183) says that, "Verse 11 reveals that the man already knows the name of his healer, the man called Jesus". He is already farther along than the paralytic portrayed in John 5".

²²⁴⁸ He tells, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash and you will receive your sight'" (Ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ λεγόμενος Ἰησοῦς πηλὸν ἐποίησεν καὶ ἐπέχρισε ἐν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς καὶ εἶπέν μοι ὅτι Ὑπάγε εἰς τὸν Σιλωὰμ καὶ νίψαι· ἀπελθὼν οὖν καὶ νιψάμενος ἀνέβλεψα). While in v. 6 it is narrated that Jesus 'spat on the ground', 'made mud with the saliva', and 'spread the mud on the man's eyes', in v. 11 the healed man testifies that 'the man called Jesus made mud' and 'spread it on my eyes'.
²²⁴⁹ His going (ἀπελθὼν), washing (νιψάμενος) and the resultant activity of 'receiving the sight' (ἀνέβλεψα); v. 7b. Cf. Lindars, 1972: 345; Westcott, 1958: 146; Vincent, 1969: 184; Keener, 2003: 783-4.

²²⁵⁰ It is the second question to the healed man within the slot. Cf. Westcott, 1958: 146; Bruce, 1983: 210; 1991: 366; Robertson, 1932: 164; Barrett, 1978: 359; Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 426-7, 430.

²²⁵¹ Brant (2011: 155) says that, "Though the infirm man did not know who had healed him, this man knows who but not where to find him". See Strachan, 1941: 219; Bultmann, 1971: 333-4; Ryle, 1957: 166; Powell, 1962: 199-200; Morris, 1995: 429; Kanagaraj, 2005: 306-7; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 246-7.

²²⁵² The transitional conjunction οὖν makes a smooth transfer from the group dialogue to the dialogue between the group and the healed man (cf. Wallace, 1996: 674). The array of 'healing the blind' traditions in the synoptic gospels shows intertextual linkages to John chap. 9. See the texts in Mark 8:22-26; 10:46-52; Luke 11:14; 18:35-43; Matthew 9:31; 12:22-23; 15:30; 20:29-34; 21:14. Cf. Brown, 1966: 378; Sloyan, 1988: 113.

²²⁵³ Duke (1985: 119; cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 426-7) observes that, "Ironically, both answers given are correct; and then again, 'No, but he is like him'. The man's brief 'Egō eimi' affirms all".

²²⁵⁴ Milne (1993: 139; cf. Brown, 1966: 377; Gaebelein, 1936: 172) says that, "The man is now subject to questions, first by his neighbors, who are not even sure he is the same person (8-9)".

²²⁵⁵ Johnson (1886: 151) is of the opinion that, "This (these) question(s) may have been asked out of curiosity" (1988: 116) calls the question in v. 10 as a "sensitive question". Cf. Brown, 1966: 377; Morris, 1995: 428; 1936: 172; Kent, 1974: 134; Kemp, 2000: 241.

²²⁵⁶ Duke (1985: 106) states that, "John does seem to use *anthrōpos* for Jesus in a doubly ironic sense. On the one hand, those who refer to him as 'the man', whether innocently (4:29; 9:11) or contemptuously (5:12; 9:16; 11:47, 50; 18:17, 29), are guilty of gross understatement On the other hand, there are occasional hints

11), and *statement of unknowing* (v. 12b; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 139-42; Von Wahlde, 2010: 426-7, 430; see Table 84).²²⁵⁷ The question-and-answer format of the dialogue between the group of people (i.e., ‘the neighbours and those who had seen him before’) and the healed man and the successive event of bringing him to the Pharisees provide forensic tones to the conversation (vv. 10 and 12a).²²⁵⁸

Utterance	Form	Content
Neighbours/those who had seen him before	Surprise question	Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?
Some people	False affirmation/assertion	It is he
Others	Negation	No, it is someone like him
The healed man	Affirmation/assertion	I am the man ²²⁵⁹
Neighbours/those who had seen him before	Surprise question	How were your eyes opened?
The healed man	Testimony, clarification, response	The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash’. Then I went and washed and received my sight
Neighbours/those who had seen him before	Question	Where is he?
The healed man	Unknowing statement	I do not know

Table 84: ‘Form’ and ‘Content’ of utterance units in John 9:8-12

The healed man’s *unknowing/ignorance* referred to at the end of the slot (v. 12) works as a literary device that provokes the reader until the end of the episode.²²⁶⁰ In the overall set up of the episode, the healed man’s repeated confession of ignorance (9:12, 25, 36) stands in sharp contrast with the brash statements of the Pharisees (9:16, 24, 29; cf. Gench, 2007: 66-8).²²⁶¹ In comparison to the first and third slots, here the role of the narrator is minimal. He remains mostly as one who

references point us to Jesus’ real identity as *the Man*, or Son of Man”. Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 355-6; Bruce, 1983: 210-1; Ryle, 1957: 165-6; Dods, 1967: 784; Morgan, 1933: 166.

²²⁵⁷ Strachan (1941: 219) further says that, “It is unnecessary to enter into this vivid story in detail. It is full of repetition, assertion and counter-assertion, after the Johannine dialogue style. Observe also that unlike most of the other stories of Jesus in the gospels, a variety of characters is used”. Cf. Sloyan, 1988: 116; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 246-7; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 337-8; Kanagaraj, 2005: 306-7; Powell, 1962: 198-9.

²²⁵⁸ Smith (1999: 193) puts it, “This episode provides a good example of the way John tends to speak of Jesus’ adversaries as Jews or Pharisees interchangeably”. Cf. Kent, 1974: 134; Sloyan, 1988: 116; Lindars, 1972: 344-5; Carson, 1991: 366; Westcott, 1958: 145-6.

²²⁵⁹ The usage ‘I am the one’ (Ἐγώ εἰμι) in this instance is purely secular. Cf. Brown, 1966: 373. Moloney (1998: 292; cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 426-7) says that, “In a way similar to Jesus’ own self-identification (cf. 4:26; 6:20; 8:58), the cured man speaks for himself: ‘I am the man’ (v. 9b: Ἐγώ εἰμι)”.

²²⁶⁰ Moloney (1998: 293; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 285; Morris, 1995: 429; Kemp, 2000: 241) is of the opinion that, “The man is unable to recognise that he has been given the light through the intervention of the Sent One of God, but he admits his ignorance: ‘I do not now’”. Lindars (1972: 345) is of the opinion that, “The ensuing dialogue will show successive stages in the enlightenment of the man’s understanding about Jesus”.

²²⁶¹ Brant (2011: 154) views that, “For twenty-seven verses, the man who was blind is the principal character in an inquisition narrative marked by a series of dialogues and delineated by exits and entrances”. Cf. Köstenberger, 1966: 285; Gaebelein, 1936: 172; Brown, 1966: 377; Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 424-7.

presents the characters and records their conversation. But irrespective of his minimal narrator is able to convince the reader by way of narrative art (cf. Smith, 1999: Köstenberger (2004: 284) opines that, “‘His neighbors . . . Others . . . Yet others . . . But h another instance of the evangelist’s skillful narrative art featuring lively interchange (cf. 7 27, 31, 40-43)”.²²⁶²

The functional aspects of the dialogue can be outlined as follows. In vv. 8b-9b, as us conflicting voices of the interlocutors are brought to the notice of the reader.²²⁶³ In the la the people’s two questions to the healed man (vv. 10, 12a) are answered in two different w with certainty (v. 11) and the other sans a definite answer (v. 12b).²²⁶⁴ In v. 11 (also in slot 15), the healed man’s testimony is used as if one of the narratorial agenda of the epis Witherington, 1995: 183; Gench, 2007: 66-8).²²⁶⁵ The role of Jesus as an ‘absent but character invites the reader’s attention, especially through the testimony of the healed ma (1981) is of the opinion that, “It is not the healed man who stands in the centre of the dis he is only the occasion and the stone of offence; in the centre stands Jesus; he is in tl narrative, although outwardly he is absent, yet as present as he alone can”.²²⁶⁶ The function of the episode progresses from the second slot onward (cf. Booth, 1961 Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 205-7). In the setting: *first*, Jesus leaves the stage; *second*, disciples ar the scene; *third*, the man returns from the pool; and *fourth*, ‘the neighbours and those who him before’ replace Jesus and his disciples on stage. The dialogue progresses as the people dialogue among themselves (vv. 8b-9b), extend the dialogue with the healed man 12), and then take him over to the next level (cf. v. 13).²²⁶⁷ The narrator deciphers the function of the dialogue by way of interviews, forensic tones, and dialogic interactions Aarde, 2009: 382-3; Green, 2003: 66).²²⁶⁸ Neyrey (2007: 171; cf. Parsenios, 2010: 10-1980: 135-7) comments on the dramatic²²⁶⁹ function of the slot as follows: “Often in thi being ‘not in the know’ stigmatises a character; not so here, for as the following

²²⁶² Köstenberger (2004: 284-5; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 338) further says that, “The sequence of responses—first, ‘It’s him, isn’t it?’; second, ‘Yes, it’s him’; third, ‘No, it’s not, but he looks like him’ man’s own testimony, ‘It’s me!’ establishes for the reader that the man in question is indeed the same formerly had been blind”. Cf. Morris, 1995: 429; Sloyan, 1988: 116; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 337-8; Hosk 355-6; Lindars, 1972: 344-5; Blomberg, 2001: 152.

²²⁶³ Resseguie (2001: 141) explains that, “The neighbours ask whether the cured man is the one who used beg: some believe that he is, but others say that he is merely a look-alike”.

²²⁶⁴ Smith (1999: 193) says that, “The man answers succinctly (v. 11), and in doing so virtually repeat miracle story. What this man has experienced he knows, and he will not deny or renounce his knowledge”. 2007: 66-7; Martyn, 1968: 30-1; Keener, 2003: 783; Resseguie, 2001: 141; Schneiders, 1999: 151.

²²⁶⁵ Sloyan (1988: 114) observes that, “Synoptic healing miracles regularly conclude with a confirmation wonder such as the healed persons’ demonstrating their health or the onlookers’ commenting on t amazement”. Sloyan (1988: 114) further says that, “Verses 8-9 seems to fulfill this function except that the new characters, who converse not with Jesus but with the person healed (vv. 10-11). This is not chara synoptic narratives and is our clue that a multi-person drama of a non-synoptic type has begun”. Cf. Bultn 333; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 156; Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 426-7; Bennema, 2010: 138.

²²⁶⁶ Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 156; Witherington, 1995: 183; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 246-7.

²²⁶⁷ Painter (1993: 309) observes that, “. . . we have a neatly recognisable ‘miracle story’ setting out th describing the healing, and attesting the reality of the miracle. Verse 12 is an editorial link to relate the dialogue/controversy which follows in 9:13-39”.

²²⁶⁸ The narrative poetics of the slot is reader-friendly in several respects. Cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 383-5; Fur 25; Martyn, 1968: 30-1; Resseguie, 2001: 141; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 337-8.

²²⁶⁹ See Sloyan, 1988: 114; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 337-8; Hoskyns, 1947: 355-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 1:

dramatise, the man will gradually move into ‘the know’, acknowledge Jesus, and even receive a revelation”.²²⁷⁰ The dramatic aspects like question-and-answer dialogue, surprise and amazement expressions, ‘absent but present’ characterisation of Jesus, group dialogue to group-and-individual interaction, conflicting voices,²²⁷¹ repetitive style, and the analeptic-proleptic interlocking of the slot invite the reader’s attention toward the effective rhetorical delivery of the slot (cf. Chatman, 1978: 59-62; Parsenios, 2010: 10-2). The reader of the story is led to getting involved with the life of the characters of the story for the sake of meaning making (cf. Court, 1997: 73-86; Classen, 2000: 1-28).²²⁷² All the events narrated in the slot (i.e., Jesus’ absence, people’s continuous interrogation, and the healed man’s lack of knowledge about Jesus) point to the astonishing and unpredictable nature of the event of revelation.²²⁷³ In order to convey the message rhetorically, the narrator explores the medium of language to its maximum (cf. Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-38; Tolmie, 1999: 21-8).²²⁷⁴

10.2.3. Slot Three (9:13-17)

The *third* slot as a whole begins in the form of a narratorial (vv. 13-15a).²²⁷⁵ The slot (9:13-17)²²⁷⁶ has a dialogue that develops through three stages (cf. Duke, 1985: 119-20; Smith, 1999: 193) as follows: *first*, as a conversation between the Pharisees and the healed man (v. 15); *second*, as a dialogue among the Pharisees and the resultant division (v. 16);²²⁷⁷ and *third*, as yet another dialogue between the Pharisees and the healed man (v. 17; cf. Martyn, 1968: 32).²²⁷⁸ The second and third slots are integrally connected as described below: (1) in the second slot the questioners are ‘the neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar’ (v. 8); and (2) in the third slot ‘they’²²⁷⁹ brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind’ (v. 13; cf. Haenchen,

²²⁷⁰ See the way Genette (1980: 33) looks at the dramatic features of a narrative. Cf. Gench, 2007: 66-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 156; Keener, 2003: 783.

²²⁷¹ Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 171; Resseguie, 2001: 141; Robertson, 1932: 163; Gench, 2007: 66-7; Martyn, 1968: 30-1.

²²⁷² Cf. Eco, 1979: 43; Lategan, 2009: 457-84; Moore, 1989: 71-107; Anderson, 2008: 93-119.

²²⁷³ Resseguie (2001: 142) argues that, “His limited understanding of his healer’s identity—‘the man called Jesus’—demonstrates that he is far from full faith, and he cannot answer as to Jesus’ whereabouts, which is paramount to understanding who Jesus is”. See Bultmann, 1971: 334; Gench, 2007: 66-7; Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 428-31; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 337-8; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 246-7.

²²⁷⁴ For more details about the interaction between language and drama, refer to Elam, 1980: 135-7.

²²⁷⁵ Robertson (1932: 164) observes that the slot begins with a “vivid dramatic present active of *agō*”. Cf. Westcott, 1958: 146; Kanagaraj, 2005: 307-8; Ryle, 1957: 170-2; Bruce, 1983: 211-2.

²²⁷⁶ Painter (1993: 309; cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 426-7) states that, “. . . we have a neatly recognisable ‘miracle story’ setting out the problem, describing the healing, and attesting the reality of the miracle. Verse 12 is an editorial link to relate the story to the dialogue/conversation which follows in 9: 13-39”. Martyn (1968: 32) considers it as a meeting of the ‘Gerousia’ in John’s city. He uses the transliterated Greek term ‘Gerousia’ in order to refer to the ruling body of Jewish elders in John’s city.

²²⁷⁷ Blomberg (2001: 153) is of the view that, “The Pharisees themselves are divided in their response to this breach of tradition (v. 16) is historically credible and suggests that John is not merely inventing a unilaterally negative response to Jesus on the part of the Jewish leaders”. He (2001: 153; cf. Bruce, 1983: 213) further says that, “The division in fact follows the approaches of Jesus’ contemporaries Shammai and Hillel. ‘The school of Shammai tended to argue from first principles (so here: anyone who breaks the law is a sinner); the school of Hillel tended to have regard to the established facts of a case (so here: Jesus has performed a good work). In a case like this, their conclusions were bound to conflict with each other’”.

²²⁷⁸ This time it is ‘the Jews’ who function as officials. Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 39; Morris, 1995: 430-2; Blomberg, 2001: 153; Morgan, 1933: 166-7; Powell, 1962: 201-2.

²²⁷⁹ I.e., ‘the neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar’ are initiators for a dialogue between the healed man and the Pharisees.

1984: 2: 39).²²⁸⁰ In v. 14, the narrator once again broaches the Sabbath controversy in order to develop a wider conflict and the subsequent characterisation (cf. chap. 5:1-18; cf. Weiss, 1984: 311-21).²²⁸¹ Though the dialogue proper begins at v. 15b and ends at v. 17b, it is incomprehensible unless the reader takes the narratorial abbreviation of the Pharisaic question in v. 15a seriously (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 72-3; see Table 85).

John 9:13-17	Overview
<p>v.13: Ἀγουσιν αὐτὸν πρὸς τοὺς Φαρισαίους τὸν ποτε τυφλόν.</p> <p>v.14: ἦν δὲ σάββατον ἐν ἡμέρᾳ τὸν πηλὸν ἐποίησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἀνέωξεν αὐτοῦ τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς.</p> <p>v.15: πάλιν οὖν ἡρώτων αὐτὸν καὶ οἱ Φαρισαῖοι πῶς ἀνέβλεψεν. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· πηλὸν ἐπέθηκέν μου ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς καὶ ἐνιψάμην καὶ βλέπω.</p> <p>v.16: ἔλεγον οὖν ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων τινές· οὐκ ἔστιν οὗτος παρά θεοῦ ὁ ἄνθρωπος, ὅτι τὸ σάββατον οὐ τηρεῖ. ἄλλοι [δὲ] ἔλεγον· πῶς δύναται ἄνθρωπος ἁμαρτωλὸς τοιαῦτα σημεῖα ποιεῖν; καὶ σχίσμα ἦν ἐν αὐτοῖς.</p> <p>v.17: λέγουσιν οὖν τῷ τυφλῷ πάλιν· τί σὺ λέγεις περὶ αὐτοῦ, ὅτι ἡνέκεν σου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν ὅτι προφήτης ἐστίν.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 13-17 is comprised of five utterance units (vv. 15b, 16a, 16b, 17a, 17b); of these, the five utterance units two are of the healed man (vv. 15b, 17b) and three are of the Pharisees (vv. 16a, 16b, 17a);</p> <p>(2) The dialogue develops in a tri-tier fashion: between the Pharisees and the healed man (vv. 13-15a, 16b, 17a); between the Pharisees among themselves (v. 16); and between the Pharisees and the healed man (v. 17b).</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 13-15a, 16c) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 16b, 17a, 17b).</p>

Table 85: The dialogue of 9:13-17 within the narratorial framework

The utterance units of the dialogue are arranged in the following order: *First*, a narrator's abbreviation about the question of the Pharisees, πῶς ἀνέβλεψεν; ("how he had received sight?"; v. 15a). Morris (1995: 431) talks about the usage of the verb ἡρώτων as follows: "The Pharisees question the man. The verb denotes a continuing process and not a simple invitation to rehearse the matter". *Second*, the healed man's testimony (Πηλὸν ἐπέθηκέν μου ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς, καὶ ἐνιψάμην καὶ βλέπω, v. 15b) is a further abbreviation of his own response (in the second slot; cf. vv. 6-7).²²⁸² Keener (2003: 786) observes that, "In 9:15, the healed man retells the account of his healing slightly more briefly than he did for the crowds (9:11); this may be due to intimidation, though it probably simply represents John's rhetorical abbreviation by repeating all of what the reader already knows". *Third*, his testimony caused for a dialogue with the Pharisees on account of the identity of Jesus and a resultant division (σχίσμα) within the community (v. 16; cf. 7:43; 10:19).²²⁸³ While one group has an altogether negative opinion

²²⁸⁰ Lindars (1972: 345) says that, "It is left to the reader to guess why this was done; it is not *because* of the Sabbath, in spite of the next verse. We have to assume that the people want a more careful enquiry to establish the truth of what the man claims". Morris (1995: 430; cf. Martyn, 1968: 32; Carson, 1991: 366) and others suggest that "It is possible that the Pharisees were acting as official representatives of the Sanhedrin". Also see Temple, Neyrey, 2007: 171; Kanagaraj, 2005: 307; Powell, 1962: 200-1.

²²⁸¹ Painter (1993: 313) mentions that, "The narrator informs the reader that the sign was performed on the Sabbath (9:14), a point not mentioned in the story itself". See Carson, 1991: 367; Westcott, 1958: 146; Ryle, 1957: 171-2; 1983: 211-2; Robertson, 1932: 164.

²²⁸² Haenchen (1984: 2: 39) says that, "The healing is now described in the style of a telegram. It becomes clear already at this point that the man formerly blind is not afraid of the authorities like all the others are". Cf. Murray, 1987: 156-7; Bultmann, 1971: 334; Bennema, 2010: 139; Ryle, 1957: 171-2.

²²⁸³ Painter (1993: 313) says that, "In common with drama in the ancient world, only two characters/group are 'on the stage' at any given time, heightening the force of the conflict". See Bultmann, 1971: 334; Lindars, 1995: 431; Carson, 1991: 367; Keener, 2003: 787; Bennema, 2010: 139; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 156.

Jesus (i.e., Οὐκ ἔστιν οὗτος παρὰ θεοῦ ὁ ἄνθρωπος, ὅτι τὸ σάββατον οὐ τηρεῖ, v. 16a), others have a positive response on account of his performance of signs (i.e., Πῶς δύναται ἄνθρωπος ἁμαρτωλὸς τοιαῦτα σημεῖα ποιεῖν; v. 16b; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 150). This causes a division among the Pharisees (i.e., καὶ σχίσμα ἦν ἐν αὐτοῖς, v. 16c). *Fourth*, the Pharisees turn to the healed man with their second question, Τί σὺ λέγεις περὶ αὐτοῦ, ὅτι ἠνέωξέν σου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς; (v. 17a; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 107).²²⁸⁴ *Fifth*, the healed man's response (Προφήτης ἐστίν, v. 17b) to their question is affirmative and christologically challenging (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 72-3; Nicol, 1972: 87; see Table 85).²²⁸⁵ The content of the dialogue develops around themes like Sabbath breaking and the identity of Jesus.

The form of the third slot can be viewed as follows. It begins as a narratorial (vv. 13-15a) and advances in a *tri-tier dialogue* format (see vv. 15, 16, and 17). The talk units show tenets of *testimony* (v. 15b; cf. Gaebelein, 1936: 173), *retelling* (v. 15b; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 39),²²⁸⁶ *false assertion/affirmation* (v. 16a), *assertion/affirmation/confession* (v. 17b; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 153),²²⁸⁷ *negation* (v. 16a; cf. Duke, 1985: 77-8), and *questions (surprise, v. 16b,²²⁸⁸ misunderstanding, v. 17a; see Table 86)*. The talk-units also show characteristics of a forensic dialogue. While Bruce (1983: 212) connects vv. 13-17 as a matter for *legal inquiry*,²²⁸⁹ Neyrey (2007: 171) connects it with a *court judgment*. The use of *sylogisms*,²²⁹⁰ *argumentations* (cf. Hendriksen, 1959: 2: 78-80), and *ironies* make the dialogue a rhetorically flavored one. Carson (1991: 368) comments concerning v. 16 as follows: "The verse is steeped in irony. Taken in its strongest form, the second argument is worthless, even if the conclusion is sound".²²⁹¹ The narrator's role in the third slot appears to be very significant as he sets the slot (vv. 13-14),

²²⁸⁴ Barrett (1978: 360) is of the opinion that, "The emphatic pronoun carries the investigation a step further; in effect, the man is provoked to align himself with Jesus (contrast the lame man of chap. 5)". This is the second question of the Pharisees to the man, after the one at v. 15a. The question here is fashioned by the help of an 'interrogative indicative', the question *expects an assertion* to be made (cf. Wallace, 1996: 449-50). Cf. Carson, 1991: 368; Keener, 2003: 787; Westcott, 1958: 146; Robertson, 1932: 165; Dods, 1967: 785.

²²⁸⁵ Strachan (1941: 219-20) says that, "Prophets sometimes said hard things about the Sabbath and conventional interpretations of the Law (Hos 6:6; Isa 1:13; Jer 2:8; Eze 7:26). Jesus is to him a prophet because He resists legalism and formalism". Also see Painter, 1993: 305; Neyrey, 2007: 171; Morgan, 1933: 166-7; Morris, 1995: 432; Blomberg, 2001: 153; Powell, 1962: 201-2.

²²⁸⁶ Brant (2011: 156) reports that, "In classical Greek literature, repeated stories are tailored for the recipient (see the retellings of the Oresteia in Homer, *Od.* 1.298-302; 3.193-200; 11.409-56)". Mlakuzhyil (2007: 151) states that, "What he tells them is his *personal experience* of how he got his sight through the mediation of Jesus". Gaebelein (1936: 173; cf. Tenney, 1948: 158; Bruce, 1983: 212) calls it a *straightforward witness* and a *simple testimony*.

²²⁸⁷ Mlakuzhyil (2007: 151; cf. Kemp, 2000: 242; Hoskyns, 1947: 356; Tenney, 1948: 158-9; Köstenberger, 2004: 287; Gaebelein, 1936: 173; Carson, 1991: 368; Kent, 1974: 135; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 339-40; Lindars, 1972: 346) opines that, "It is noteworthy that the cured blind man comes to this awareness of Jesus being a prophet only in the context of being *questioned* by the Pharisees who dispute among themselves . . ."

²²⁸⁸ The Pharisaic question at v. 16b is reminiscent of Jesus' argument against the charge that he is in league with Beelzebul in the synoptic tradition. Cf. Luke 11:15-20; see Lindars, 1972: 346.

²²⁸⁹ Cf. Hendriksen, 1959: 2: 81-4; Carson, 1991: 366-8; Barrett, 1978: 359-60; Neyrey, 2007: 171.

²²⁹⁰ Hendriksen (1959: 2: 81) sees a battle of syllogisms in v. 16. He says that, "We have first: the syllogism of the predominant group of Pharisees (v. 16a); and next, the syllogism vaguely suggested by the question of the minority. This second syllogism is going to be used with telling force by the cured man himself (see 9:31-33)".

²²⁹¹ Carson (1991: 368; also see Stibbe, 1993: 110-1) further says that, "In other words, the second group employs at best a weak argument, but comes up with the truth, however hesitantly expressed".

abbreviates the utterance-units of the characters (vv. 15-17),²²⁹² and also informs the reader of the division among the Jews (v. 16c).²²⁹³ Within this slot the narrator develops a conflict- and christologically affirmative dialogue (cf. Duke, 1985: 119-20).²²⁹⁴

Utterance	Form	Content
Healed person	Testimony, retelling	He (Jesus) put mud on my eyes. Then I washed now I see
Some Pharisees	False assertion/affirmation, negation	This man (Jesus) is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath
Others	Question of perplexity	How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?
Pharisees	Evidential question, misunderstanding question	What do you say about him? It was your eyes that were opened.
Healed person	Assertion/affirmation/confession	He is a prophet

Table 86: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 9:13-17

The tri-tier development of the dialogue works in the following way: *first*, a dialogue between the Pharisees and the healed man (v. 15); *second*, a dialogue among the Pharisees (v. 16); *third*, another dialogue between Pharisees and the healed man (v. 17). At the first level the Pharisaic question is implicit within the narrative (v. 15a).²²⁹⁶ Though the dialogue sequence develops as a single unit, its progression is disturbed by the insertion of the group dialogue in v. 16. While in the first and third stages it has a *question-and-answer* format (vv. 15 and 17), in the second stage it maintains a *false assertion to a question of perplexity* sequence (v. 16). In the slot, the reader is notified about a narratorial tendency of developing a *dialogue* (v. 16).²²⁹⁹

The function of the dialogue can briefly be outlined as follows. The narrator, through the utterances of the characters, dynamically bridges the second and the third slots. Moloney (1998: 2

²²⁹² The abbreviating tendencies are vivid in: *first*, through the short narration at the beginning (vv. 13-15a); *second*, through the central utterance units, especially by turning active voice to passive voice (v. 15a); and *third*, in the narrative about the division (v. 16c).

²²⁹³ Painter (1993: 313) opines that, "In common with drama in the ancient world, only two characters/groups are on 'the stage' at any given time, heightening the dramatic effect and, in these dialogues, emphasising the focus on the conflicts". Kemp (2000: 241; cf. Gaebelein, 1936: 172-3; MacGregor, 1928: 228; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 338-9; Bruce, 1983: 212-3) mentions the 'theological questions' of the Pharisees.

²²⁹⁴ Stibbe (1993: 110; cf. Martyn, 1968: 32; Resseguie, 2001: 141; Schneiders, 1999: 151) argues that in this instance, the contrast is between the Pharisees who say, 'This man is not from God', and those who say, 'How can a sinner do such miraculous signs?' However, the most obvious *schismata* are between sight and blindness, light and darkness, day and night". Cf. Martyn, 1968: 32; Kent, 1974: 134-5; Westcott, 1958: 146-7; Köstenberger, 1992: 476-525.

²²⁹⁵ Sloyan (1988: 116; cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 356) says that, "... they [Pharisees] are divided like the man" (v. 9) over what has taken place (v. 16; cf. 7:43), probably reflecting the division over Jesus in John's milieu.

²²⁹⁶ See Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 338-9; Bruce, 1983: 212; Lindars, 1972: 345-6.

²²⁹⁷ Sloyan (1988: 117) says that, "... the inquiry shifts from how Jesus did the cure (v. 15) to who he is (v. 17).

²²⁹⁸ Brant (2011: 155-6) observes that, "This miracle does not immediately generate controversy about Jesus' identity. The first two of three Pharisaic interrogations (both of which are instances of true *stichomythia*, alternating lines given to alternating characters—something not achieved in the Synoptic Gospels) are devoted to establishing the blind man's identity". Cf. Gaebelein, 1936: 173; Westcott, 1958: 147; Kent, 1974: 134-5.

²²⁹⁹ While the dialogue between the Pharisees and the healed man is in the progress, the narrator inserts an additional dialogue among the Pharisees.

that, "The neighbours and acquaintances bridge the scenes as they take the man to the Pharisees (v. 13)".²³⁰⁰ The slot is further linked to the fourth slot by way of narratorial comments (cf. v. 18). Milne (1993: 139-40) comments that, "They [Pharisees] conduct three interviews, first, with the man (vv. 13-17); second, with his parents (vv. 18-23); and third, with the man for a second time (vv. 24-34)". The healed man's utterance in v. 17 takes the reader back to the declaration of the Samaritan woman (4: 19)²³⁰¹ and the Pharisaic animosity generates curiosity about the future events. These factors reveal the dramatic progression and the analeptic-proleptic interlocking of the third slot. The narrator of the dialogue reveals that the Pharisees are not interested in the person of Jesus as they focus purely on the preservation of the Sabbath controversy and the legal tradition (v. 16a; cf. 5:16-18; see Weiss, 1991: 311-21; Brant, 2004: 110).²³⁰² He tells the reader that Jesus' breach of the Sabbath was one of the important issues lying behind the dialogue.²³⁰³ In v. 16, the division among the Jews about the healed man is again brought out by way of verbal arguments (cf. vv. 8-9; see Ball, 1996: 98; Keener, 2003: 1: 787).²³⁰⁴ The Jews repeatedly ask the blind man the same question with the expectation of a 'changed answer/position' (cf. vv. 10, 15, 17).²³⁰⁵ While the healed man was uncertain about the identity of Jesus in the second slot (v. 12b), in the third slot, first, he proclaims his testimony for a second time (v. 15b; cf. v. 11) and, second, he confesses more emphatically about the person of Jesus (v. 17b; cf. v. 11a).²³⁰⁶ While the majority group among the Pharisees uses harsh language against Jesus from the beginning, the healed man's confession progresses from weaker to stronger.²³⁰⁷ The healed man's progressive response aligns him with the pro-Jesus camp.²³⁰⁸ While the Pharisees still remain in darkness, the healed man progresses toward the light. The Pharisaic wrong intentions, the healed man's progression in discipleship,²³⁰⁹ and Jesus' centrality are at focus in the dialogue of the third slot. Keener (2003: 785-6) is right in arguing that the third slot functions as an epistemological and theological conflict.²³¹⁰ It begins the real judicial process within the episode.²³¹¹ The dialogue progresses from

²³⁰⁰ Also see Carson, 1991: 366; Lindars, 1972: 345; Bruce, 1983: 211; Hendriksen, 1959: 2: 78-9.

²³⁰¹ Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 157; Köstenberger, 2004: 287; Hoskyns, 1947: 356; Wiles, 1960: 55-6.

²³⁰² For the Pharisees, breaking the Sabbath was a far more important matter than whether or how the thing was done. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 164; Moloney, 1998: 293; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 156-7; Brown, 1966: 377-9; Kent, 1974: 134-5; Mlakuzhyil, 2007: 151-2; Gaebelein, 1936: 172-3; Hoskyns, 1947: 356.

²³⁰³ The relevance of the sign as an external proof for the rhetoric is conspicuous here. Cf. Kennedy, 1984: 14-5; Gaebelein, 1936: 172-3; Mlakuzhyil, 2007: 151-2; Sloyan, 1988: 116-7; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 338-40.

²³⁰⁴ Howard (1952: 616) says that, "It was much the same principle as separated the two Pharisaic schools of Hillel and Shammai. The former in regulating life looked carefully at the actual conditions in judging a particular case; the latter considered only the strict letter of the law". See Spivey and Smith, 1969: 416-25.

²³⁰⁵ Brant (2011: 156) says that, "The deictic use of 'you' is a challenge to the man to reevaluate what has happened and resolve the problem by denouncing the healer". Cf. Gaebelein, 1936: 172-3; Von Wahlde, 2010: 427; Hoskyns, 1947: 356; Wiles, 1960: 55-6; Sloyan, 1988: 116-7; Witherington, 1995: 183.

²³⁰⁶ His confession gives the reader a picture about his changing perception about Jesus, i.e., from a man to a prophet and from unknowing to little knowing. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 287; Westcott, 1958: 146-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 156-7; Kent, 1974: 134-5; Talbert, 1992: 159-60; Von Wahlde, 2010: 427.

²³⁰⁷ The healed man gives an affirmative confession by saying that Jesus is a prophet. Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 39; Hendriksen, 1959: 2: 78-84; Lindars, 1972: 345-6; Bruce, 1983: 211-4; Carson, 1991: 366-8.

²³⁰⁸ Cf. Milne, 1993: 140; Brown, 1966: 377-9; Kemp, 2000: 241-2.

²³⁰⁹ Köstenberger (2004: 287; cf. Carson, 1991: 368; Brown, 1966: 377; Mlakuzhyil, 2007: 153) opines that, "Note the progression in the man's estimate of Jesus (Keener [2003: 775] calls the blind man a 'paradigm of growing discipleship'): from 'the man called Jesus' (9:11) to 'a prophet' (9:17), to one who might be followed by disciples (9:27), to 'from God' (9:33), to 'Lord' to be worshipped (9:38)".

²³¹⁰ Keener (2003: 785) says that, "Although this epistemological conflict surfaces most dramatically here, surrounding narratives provide its context. The previous encounters between Jesus and the authorities during this festival (chs. 7-8) offer sufficient perspective . . . The crucial significance of this conflict is resolved only in Jesus' following discourse

<p>ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι τυφλὸς ἐγεννήθη; πῶς οὖν βλέπει ἄρτι;</p> <p>v.20: ἀπεκρίθησαν οὖν οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ καὶ εἶπαν· οἶδαμεν ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς ἡμῶν καὶ ὅτι τυφλὸς ἐγεννήθη·</p> <p>v.21: πῶς δὲ νῦν βλέπει οὐκ οἶδαμεν, ἢ τίς ἤνοιξεν αὐτοῦ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἡμεῖς οὐκ οἶδαμεν· αὐτὸν ἐρωτήσατε, ἡλικίαν ἔχει, αὐτὸς περὶ ἑαυτοῦ λαλήσει.</p> <p>v.22: ταῦτα εἶπαν οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ ὅτι ἐφοβοῦντο τοὺς Ἰουδαίους· ἦδη γὰρ συνετέθειντο οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἵνα ἐάν τις αὐτὸν ὁμολογήσῃ χριστόν, ἀποσυνάγωγος γένηται.</p> <p>v.23: διὰ τοῦτο οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῦ εἶπαν ὅτι ἡλικίαν ἔχει, αὐτὸν ἐπερωτήσατε.</p>	<p>20b-21);</p> <p>(2) The expression ἡλικίαν ἔχει, αὐτὸν ἐπερωτήσατε in v. 23 is part of the narratorial commentary. That is an altered form of the parents' speech in v. 21;</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 18, 22-23) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 19a, 20a).</p>
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Table 87: The dialogue of 9:18-23 within the narratorial framework

The parents' answer conveys both their 'fear'²³²⁰ of excommunication from the synagogue and their intent to escape from the scene (cf. vv. 20-21; cf. Witherington, 1995: 184; Brant, 2011: 157).²³²¹ Their response emphasises three things: *first*, their *knowing* or *recognition* of their son and revealing the reality of his former blindness (Οἶδαμεν ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς ἡμῶν καὶ ὅτι τυφλὸς ἐγεννήθη, v. 20); *second*, their *unknowing* or *unrecognition* about the source of his sight (πῶς δὲ νῦν βλέπει οὐκ οἶδαμεν, ἢ τίς ἤνοιξεν αὐτοῦ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἡμεῖς οὐκ οἶδαμεν, v. 21a),²³²² and *third*, their escape from the scene by saying "Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself" (αὐτὸν ἐρωτήσατε, ἡλικίαν ἔχει, αὐτὸς περὶ ἑαυτοῦ λαλήσει, v. 21b).²³²³ The narrator brings out the position of the parents (i.e., *knowing-unknowing-escape*) through their cunningly devised answer in vv. 20-21. In vv. 22 and 23, the narrator implicitly describes the reason underlying their diplomatic answer (cf. Brant, 2004: 204).²³²⁴ Their diplomatic answer saved them from being 'driven out of the synagogue' (ἀποσυνάγωγος γένηται, cf. v. 34; Von Wahlde, 2010: 435; Duke, 1985: 152).²³²⁵ The content of the dialogue thus develops around two important

²³²⁰ Martyn (1968: 33) says that, "... they [i.e., parents] volunteer a lack of information". Duke (1985: 121) says that, "Here we are told that belief in Jesus will result in expulsion from a cherished community, and that disbelief in him will require deliberate blindness to the undeniable works of God". Cf. Hendriksen, 1959: 86; Carson, 1991: 369-70.

²³²¹ Brant (2004: 84; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 143-4) comments that, "A comparable density of first- and second-person pronouns appears in the dialogues between the Jewish authorities and the man born blind and his parents (9:19-21, 24-34). The force of the second person pronouns hurls the lines back and forth between the dialogue partners, and the first-person pronouns are defensive gestures". Wallace (1996: 585-6; cf. Brant, 2011: 157) observes the use of an extensive pluperfect in v. 22 (συνετέθειντο) in order to emphasise the completion of an action in past time, without focusing *as much* on the existing results.

²³²² Brant (2011: 157) views that, "... John seems to be constructing the *Zeitgeist* of a repressive regime in which people are dragged in for interrogation in order to denounce others. The response 'I don't know' does not necessarily indicate a lack of sufficient data to answer a question. It can point to either (a) a lack of sufficient desire to go through the reflexive thought process needed to produce an answer, or (b) a lack of conviction that producing an answer will be to one's own benefit".

²³²³ Duke (1985: 120-1) opines that, "The parents are not especially courageous, but they will not misrepresent the central fact". Cf. Brown, 1966: 379; Moloney, 1998: 294; Hendriksen, 1959: 86; Bruce, 1983: 214-5.

²³²⁴ Brown (1966: 374) is of the opinion that, "In the parenthetical verses 22-23 we seem to have the final development of the apologetic use of this Johannine story. These verses may well represent the hand of an editor bringing the story up to date, for they are somewhat intrusive in the narrative".

²³²⁵ Moloney (1998: 294; cf. Howard, 1952: 616-7; Brown, 1966: 374; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 157) opines that, "The parents were afraid of 'the Jews' because they had decided that anyone who confessed that Jesus was the Christ was to be put out of the synagogue (v. 22: ἀποσυνάγωγος γένηται)". The hostility of the Jewish community toward the newly emerging Jesus community is emphasised through v. 22 (cf. Klink, 2007: 128; Pryor, 1992: 42-3; Smalley, 1978/1998: 143-4; Kysar, 1975: 149-56). Painter (1993: 315-16) says that, "The development of the dialogue section reflects the

aspects: *first*, the continued unbelief of the Jews; and *second*, the parents' attempt to escape the situation.

The form of the dialogue can be viewed as follows (cf. Press, 2007: 55-74). The fourth slot whole maintains a *narrative-dialogue-narrative* sequence (cf. vv. 18, 19-21, 22-23; see Vain 2009: 382-5). While the healed man is backgrounded, his parents are foregrounded (cf. 1968: 32-3). The talk-forms like *forensic question/investigation* (v. 19),²³²⁶ *knowing-unknown conflict* (vv. 20-21a),²³²⁷ and *statement of escape* (v. 21b; cf. Brant, 2011: 157)²³²⁸ are determining its overall dialogue-form.²³²⁹ The dialogue develops through the use of elements like *contrast* (vv. 20-21) and *doublets* (vv. 21b and 23; see Table 88).²³³⁰ By the slot the narrator provides an *implicit commentary* about the response of the parents (vv. cf. vv. 20-21).²³³¹ In a broader sense the dialogue keeps a *question-and-answer* format (21)²³³² as it progresses from a *forensic question* of the Jews to a *knowing-unknown-response* of the parents (cf. Duke, 1985: 120-1). The narrator of the story presents the tale cohesively within the narratorial framework (cf. Chatman, 1978: 27-31).

Utterance	Form	Content
Jews	Forensic question, investigation	Is this your son, who you say was born blind then does he now see?
Parents of the healed man	Knowing-unknown conflict, contrast, statement of escape	We know that this is our son, and that he was blind; but we do not know how it is that now nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him of age. He will speak for himself.

Table 88: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 9:18-23

The function of the dialogue in the fourth slot can be discussed in brief as follows. The begins as the narrator reports the juridical-type of questions posed by the Pharisees/Jews and the parents.²³³³ The question-and-answer dialogue is marked with the 'mean mentality'

situation of conflict with the synagogue. It seems to be addressed to those who remained sympathetic to the synagogue, the secret believers". The narrator repeats the expression of the parents (i.e., 'Ἡλικίαν ἔπερωτήσατε) with a renewed interest for readers' attention in v. 23 (cf. v. 21b).

²³²⁶ Gench (2007: 68) comments that, "The investigation then takes a dramatic turn at its center". Cf. Ma 32; Gaebelein, 1936: 173-4; Painter, 1993: 309; Sloyan, 1988: 119; Morris, 1995: 487; Moloney, 1998: 293.
²³²⁷ Cf. Morris, 1995: 487; Haenchen, 1984: 39; Lindars, 1972: 346-7; Carson, 1991: 369.

²³²⁸ Gaebelein (1936: 173) says that, "... instead of repeating the story as their son had given it to them, the ignorance as to who opened his eyes and by what means it was accomplished".

²³²⁹ Painter (1993: 309) is of the opinion that, "From 9:13-34 there are controversial dialogues between the Pharisees (Jews) and other witnesses. The dialogues lead to action being taken against the healed man".

²³³⁰ Repetition of the expression 'Ἡλικίαν ἔχει, αὐτὸν ἐπερωτήσατε firstly through the mouth of the parents from the pen of the narrator is explicit here (cf. v. 21b; v. 23). See Köstenberger, 2004: 287.

²³³¹ Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 39; Howard, 1952: 616-7; Morris, 1995: 488; Lindars, 1972: 347; Carson, 1991: 369.

²³³² Gench (2007: 68) says that, "In response to the first question, the parents confirm that the man is their son; he was born blind, but profess ignorance with respect to the second question, about the healing". Cf. Morris, 1995: 487; Haenchen, 1984: 39; Sloyan, 1988: 117-20; Tenney, 1948: 159; Brown, 1966: 377-9; Tasker, 1960: 122-7.

²³³³ The pair of questions, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?", is marked by their juridical nature. Cf. Brown, 1966: 379; Howard, 1952: 616-7; Tenney, 1948: 159; Bernard, 1966: 159; Moloney, 1998: 293; Carson, 1991: 368-9; Tasker, 1960: 122-7.

Pharisees/Jews through their ‘mean questions’.²³³⁴ It also reveals the attitude of the parents to escape with a diplomatic answer (cf. Brant, 2011: 157). The sarcastic response of the parents (like “He is of age; ask him”) further reveals their discontentment before their interlocutors (v. 21b; cf. v. 23).²³³⁵ The concealing tenet of the diplomatic response is later on revealed through a narratorial note (vv. 20-21; cf. vv. 22-23; cf. Witherington, 1995: 184). This feature of their response is marked with a *revealing-concealing contrast*.²³³⁶ On the one hand it reveals a few things and on the other it hides other important factors. The parents’ attempt to save themselves from the Pharisaic judgment/verdict and to maintain their status quo as synagogue members is explicit through their response. The type of questions the Pharisees raise and the way the parents answer reveal not only the sarcastic-dialogic depiction within the text but also of the rhetoric-dialogic interaction between the narrator and the reader (cf. Eco, 1979: 3-40; Green, 2003: 11-66).²³³⁷ This proves the way Johannine dialogues function as sharp instruments in order to reveal the psychological aspects of the characters. The characters are introduced as follows: *first*, the unbelieving nature of the Jews is brought out once again into public notice; *second*, the blind man’s development toward a fuller revelation is presented as a contrast to the Jewish animosity against Jesus;²³³⁸ and *third*, the parents’ fear of their excommunication and their careful response (cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 435).²³³⁹ These aspects of the slot accrete the dramatic flow of the episode (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-91).²³⁴⁰ The narrator plays the role of one who presents the characters and their utterances and one who fills the gap within the narratorial framework of the slot (cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 382-5; Moore, 1989: 71-8). The narrative-dialogue interlocking is one of the important functional-dynamics of the slot.

10.2.5. Slot Five (9:24-34)

The *fifth* slot (vv. 24-34) is the largest dialogic slot of the episode that has seven utterance units, four of the Pharisees/Jews (vv. 24b, 26, 28-29, 34a) and three of the healed man (vv. 25, 27, 30-33).²³⁴¹ The narrator brings to the notice of the reader the following things: *first*, the Jews’ calling

²³³⁴ The Pharisees are raising questions here in order to target the person of Jesus and to put an end to his endeavors. This reveals the ‘mean mentality’ of the Pharisees.

²³³⁵ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 249) comments that, “With sharp prudence they refer the questioners to their son, who is old enough to speak for himself”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 157-8; Morris, 1995: 486-9; Howard, 1952: 616-7; Sloyan, 1988: 117-20; Köstenberger, 2004: 287-9; Milne, 1993: 136-40; Bernard, 1929: 334.

²³³⁶ While their response reveals their relationship with the healed man and his blindness from birth, they conceal several other factors on account of their fear of the Jews.

²³³⁷ Brant (2011: 157) comments that, “The word *apōsynagōgos* is unique to this ancient Greek text (see also 12:42; 16:2). The alliteration with the word *synetetheinto* makes it possible that the unusual word choice is motivated by the poetic rhetoric of the narrative”. Cf. Bernard, 1929: 333-4; Moloney, 1998: 293-4; Tenney, 1948: 159; Morris, 1995: 486-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 157-8; Carson, 1991: 369; Tasker, 1960: 122-7.

²³³⁸ Cf. Van Kooten, 2005: 164; Moloney, 1998: 293; Bernard, 1929: 333-4; Milne, 1993: 136-40.

²³³⁹ Here, the parents are trapped between their love toward their son and fear about their excommunication from the synagogue. The narrator works with certain biases in his mind: *first*, he presents the Jews as unbelieving (v. 18a); *second*, the healed man as one who received his sight back (v. 18); and *third*, the reason for parents’ diplomatic answer at vv. 20-21 (see vv. 22-23). See Painter, 1986: 36-7; Köstenberger, 2004: 287; Milne, 1993: 136-40; Sloyan, 1988: 117-20; Tenney, 1948: 159; Moloney, 1998: 293; Howard, 1952: 616-7; Brown, 1966: 380; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 157-8.

²³⁴⁰ Duke (1985: 120; cf. Parsenios, 2010: 10-2) says that, “The cast is dramatically narrowing in preparation for the focused dualism of one fledgling believer against the hardened opposition of disbelief”.

²³⁴¹ Though the second slot (vv. 8-12) has eight utterance units, they are comparatively smaller in size to the sayings of the fifth slot. While the fifth slot has only five verses to encompass the eight utterance units, the seven utterance units

of the healed man for a second time (v. 24a); *second*, introduction of the characters and their utterances (v. 24b-34a); *third*, the revilement by the Jews (v. 28a); and *fourth*, the “driving out” of the man from the scene (v. 34b; cf. Brant, 2011: 157-9).²³⁴² The counter-dialogue proper is structured in the following fashion: *first*, an utterance of the Jews is introduced as they attempt to change the developing affinity of the healed man toward Jesus and in response to his testimony in an abbreviated format (vv. 24b-25).²³⁴³ The Jews begin with a ‘statement’ (Δὸς δόξαν τῷ θεῷ)²³⁴⁴ and raise a ‘we know’ (ἡμεῖς οἴδαμεν) utterance affirming the identity of Jesus (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 250-2; Brant, 2011: 157). Neyrey (2007) comments that, “. . . they pronounce *judgment* not on this man but on Jesus, who has just appeared before this court: ‘Give glory to God! This man is a sinner’ (9:24)”.²³⁴⁵ The man’s response (Εἰ ἁμαρτωλὸς ἐστὶν οὐκ οἶδα· ἐν οἶδα ὅτι τυφλὸς ὦν ἄρτι βλέπω) in v. 25 takes the form of an evidentialist defense. His answer to them introduces an ‘I know-and-I do not know’ (οἶδα-οὐκ οἶδα) contrast (cf. Smith, 1999: 197).²³⁴⁶ *Second*, the Jews raise a pair of questions of him, “what did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” (Τί ἐποίησέν σοι; πῶς ἤνοιξεν σοὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς; v. 26; cf. v. 10 and also the question in passive voice format in v. 15a).²³⁴⁷ The man’s second response in the slot (v. 27) begins as he expresses his discontentment and then he poses a sarcastic counter-question at his counterparts (i.e., Εἶπον ὑμῖν ἤδη καὶ οὐκ ἔχετε ἀκούειν; μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς θέλετε αὐτοῦ μαθηταὶ γενέσθαι; v. 27; see Table 8).

John 9:24-34	Overview
v.24: Ἐφώνησαν οὖν τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἐκ δευτέρου ὃς ἦν τυφλὸς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· δὸς δόξαν τῷ θεῷ· ἡμεῖς οἴδαμεν ὅτι οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἁμαρτωλὸς ἐστὶν.	(1) The dialogue in vv. 24-34 comprises of seven utterance units (vv. 24b, 25b, 26b, 27b, 28b-33, 34b); out of the seven utterance units, four are of the Jews (v. 24b, 26b, 28b-29, 34b) and three are of the healed man (vv. 25b, 27b, 33);
v.25: ἀπεκρίθη οὖν ἐκεῖνος· εἰ ἁμαρτωλὸς ἐστὶν οὐκ οἶδα· ἐν οἶδα ὅτι τυφλὸς ὦν ἄρτι βλέπω.	
v.26: εἶπον οὖν αὐτῷ· τί ἐποίησέν σοι; πῶς ἤνοιξέν σου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς;	
v.27: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς· εἶπον ὑμῖν ἤδη καὶ οὐκ ἠκούσατε· τί πάλιν θέλετε ἀκούειν; μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς θέλετε αὐτοῦ μαθηταὶ γενέσθαι;	
v.28: καὶ ἐλοιδορήσαν αὐτὸν καὶ εἶπον· σὺ μαθητὴς εἶ ἐκείνου, ἡμεῖς δὲ	

of the fifth slot are presented in eleven verses. Martyn (1968: 34) sees that the dialogue happens at “courtroom”.

²³⁴² The voice or the teller of the story communicates the event and invites the reader to listen (cf. Tolmie, 2005). Cf. Powell, 1962: 203-5; Carson, 1991: 372-5; Morris, 1995: 436; Bennema, 2009: 140; Vincent, 1969: 185-6; Bruce, 1983: 216-7.

²³⁴³ Cf. Keener, 2003: 789; Bennema, 2009: 140-1; Powell, 1962: 203; Morgan, 1933: 167; Blomberg, 1993: 167-8; Carson, 1991: 372-5; Morris, 1995: 436-7; Strachan, 1941: 220; Bultmann, 1971: 335-6.

²³⁴⁴ Keener (2003: 790; cf. Morgan, 1933: 167) says that, “The phrase ‘give glory to God’ (9:24) can refer to a trial or interrogation context, can mean, ‘give glory to God by confessing your wrong’ (Josh 7:19; Thus they may be exhorting the man to admit that he is following a ‘misleader’—and exhorting him to glorify in repenting”.

²³⁴⁵ Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 110-1; Westcott, 1958: 148; Bennema, 2009: 140-1; Bultmann, 1971: 335-7.

²³⁴⁶ Gench (2007: 69-70) says that, “The words ‘we know’ are a red flag in John, signalling spiritual darkness (cf. Nicodemus in 3:2, who first utters them). Yet repeatedly the religious authorities confidently assert what they do not know (9: 24, 29) in contrast to the formerly blind man, who disavows theological aptitude, but will not deny his experience: ‘I do not know whether he is a sinner’”. See Neyrey, 2007: 173; Morgan, 1933: 167-8; Carson, 1991: 372-5; Morris, 1995: 436-7; Strachan, 1941: 220; Bultmann, 1971: 335-6.

²³⁴⁷ Kanagaraj (2005: 312) says that, “Whereas in verse 15 their question focused on the man himself, in verse 26 two questions are concerned with Jesus”.

²³⁴⁸ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 251) says that, “The evangelist wants to bring back the idea of discipleship (cf. 4:1) to expose the hostility of the Pharisees to Jesus’ discipleship (cf. 4:1)”. Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 173; Stibbe, 1993: 110-1; Powell, 1962: 204; Bultmann, 1971: 335-7; Morgan, 1933: 167-8; Morris, 1995: 436-7.

<p>τοῦ Μωϋσέως ἐσμέν μαθηταί· v.29: ἡμεῖς οἶδαμεν ὅτι Μωϋσεὶ λελάληκεν ὁ θεός, τοῦτον δὲ οὐκ οἶδαμεν πόθεν ἐστίν. v.30: ἀπεκρίθη ὁ ἄνθρωπος καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· ἐν τούτῳ γὰρ τὸ θαυμαστόν ἐστιν, ὅτι ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε πόθεν ἐστίν, καὶ ἤνοιξέν μου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς. v.31: οἶδαμεν ὅτι ἁμαρτωλῶν ὁ θεὸς οὐκ ἀκούει, ἀλλ' ἐάν τις θεοσεβῆς ᾗ καὶ τὸ θέλημα αὐτοῦ ποιῇ τούτου ἀκούει. v.32: ἐκ τοῦ αἰῶνος οὐκ ἠκούσθη ὅτι ἠνέωξεν τις ὀφθαλμοὺς τυφλοῦ γεγεννημένου· v.33: εἰ μὴ ἦν οὗτος παρὰ θεοῦ, οὐκ ἠδύνατο ποιεῖν οὐδέν. v.34: ἀπεκρίθησαν καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῷ· ἐν ἁμαρτίαις σὺ ἐγεννήθης ὄλος καὶ σὺ διδάσκεις ἡμᾶς; καὶ ἐξέβαλον αὐτὸν ἔξω.</p>	<p>(2) While the Jews' four utterances are reported in five verses, the healed man's three utterances are reported in six verses. In vv. 28-33, the slot develops from a dialogue to a discourse as the speeches of the characters tend to give the details;</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 24a, 34c) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 24a, 25a, 26a, 27a, 28a, 30a, 34a).</p>
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Table 89: The dialogue of 9:24-34 within the narratorial framework

Fourth, the Jewish revilement is brought out. They firstly compare between their own discipleship under Moses (ἡμεῖς δὲ τοῦ Μωϋσέως, v. 28b) and the healed man's discipleship under Jesus (Σὺ μαθητῆς εἰ ἐκείνου, v. 28a; cf. Gench, 2007: 70; Anderson, 2008: 104).²³⁴⁹ Then they state their *knowing* about Moses (ἡμεῖς οἶδαμεν ὅτι Μωϋσεὶ λελάληκεν ὁ θεός, v. 29a) in contrast to their *not knowing* about the identity of Jesus (τοῦτον δὲ οὐκ οἶδαμεν πόθεν ἐστίν, v. 29b; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 144; Talbert, 1992: 160).²³⁵⁰ *Fifth*, the man's response at vv. 30-33 is the longest talk-unit in the fifth slot. Their *unknowing* about the identity of Jesus becomes a *knowing* factor through the testimony of the healed man (cf. Gench, 2007: 69-70).²³⁵¹ Four important things are emphasised through the utterance of the healed man here: (1) the Pharisees' *unknowing* is addressed sarcastically and then contrasted with his own testimony (Ἐν τούτῳ γὰρ τὸ θαυμαστόν ἐστιν, ὅτι ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε πόθεν ἐστίν, καὶ ἤνοιξέν μου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς, v. 30; cf. Martyn, 1968: 34-5); (2) the 'without sin nature' of Jesus is revealed as part of a *knowing* statement (οἶδαμεν ὅτι ἁμαρτωλῶν ὁ θεὸς οὐκ ἀκούει, ἀλλ' ἐάν τις θεοσεβῆς ᾗ καὶ τὸ θέλημα αὐτοῦ ποιῇ τούτου ἀκούει, v. 31; cf. Brant, 2011: 158); (3) the act of healing is hyperbolized (ἐκ τοῦ αἰῶνος οὐκ ἠκούσθη ὅτι ἠνέωξεν τις ὀφθαλμοὺς τυφλοῦ γεγεννημένου, v. 32; cf. Smith, 1999: 198);²³⁵² and (4) confessing Jesus as the one from God (εἰ μὴ ἦν οὗτος παρὰ θεοῦ, οὐκ ἠδύνατο ποιεῖν οὐδέν, v. 33; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 291-4). *Sixth*, the Jews express their discomfort by countering the healed man's testimony on behalf of Jesus (i.e., a sinner for them; v. 34; cf. v. 24, Ἐν ἁμαρτίαις σὺ ἐγεννήθης ὄλος καὶ σὺ διδάσκεις ἡμᾶς;), silencing him, sarcastically weighing down his testimony (by asking σὺ διδάσκεις ἡμᾶς;),²³⁵³ and driving him out of the synagogue (cf. Brant, 2011: 158-9;

²³⁴⁹ Pancaro (1975: 101) opines that, "At John 9:24-34 it is the fact of being faithful disciples of Moses, who know that God spoke to their 'teacher', which does not allow them to accept Jesus and his teaching".

²³⁵⁰ In the first case, they begin talking about Jesus and then come to Moses; but in the second case, they begin with Moses and then talk about their unknowingness about Jesus. Cf. Keener, 2003: 790-1; Pancaro, 1975: 108; Westcott, 1958: 148; Ryle, 1957: 184; Bennema, 2009: 140-1; Blomberg, 2001: 155; Robertson, 1932: 168.

²³⁵¹ Bennema (2009: 141) says that, "He even goes on the offensive, mocking his interlocutors' lack of knowledge regarding Jesus' origins and logically concludes that Jesus must be from God (9:30-33)". See Keener, 2003: 792-3; Morris, 1995: 437-8; Lindars, 1972: 348-9; Carson, 1991: 374-5; Dods, 1967: 786-7; Barrett, 1978: 362.

²³⁵² Wallace (1996: 453) considers it as a 'subject clause' and translates as follows: "That anyone has opened the eyes of a person who was born blind".

²³⁵³ Köstenberger (2004: 291; cf. Conway, 1999: 132) says that, "Now the man born blind becomes the teacher, reasoning with the Jewish authorities on their own terms. His tenacity contrasts with the timidity of both his parents and even of Nicodemus (cf. 7:50-51)".

Talbert, 1992: 161).²³⁵⁴ Pancaro (1975: 110; cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 358-9) states that, “Some are of the opinion that ἐξέβαλον αὐτὸν ἔξω only means that they chased him from their place, but others believe that John has excommunication in mind. John 9:22; 12:42 and 16:2 favor the latter view”.²³⁵⁵ The scene thus ends in a dramatic way (see Table 89). The content of the dialogue is an antithetical development of Jewish antagonism against Jesus versus the healed man’s maintenance of his faith.

The form of the dialogue in vv. 24-34 is discussed herewith (cf. Press, 2007: 55-71).²³⁵⁶ The dialogue is set within an *inclusio* between ἁμαρτωλός in v. 24b and ἁμαρτίαις in v. 34a. The utterance units at the beginning and at the end of the slot by the Pharisees are attempts to prove that Jesus and the healed man are sinners (cf. vv. 24b and 34a). But, the healed man’s statement at the centre of the dialogue that “God does not listen to sinners” (v. 31a) gives the dialogue a *negative-positive-negative*²³⁵⁷ developmental outlook (cf. 24b, 31a, 34a).²³⁵⁸ In the dialogue the following utterance-forms are significantly used: *glory statement* (v. 24),²³⁵⁹ *knowing state* (v. 24b; cf. Gench, 2007: 69-70), *negative remark* (v. 24b), *knowing-and-unknowing contrast* (cf. Witherington, 1995: 184; Duke, 1985: 121-3),²³⁶⁰ *testimony/retelling* (v. 25),²³⁶¹ *past-present contrast* (v. 25),²³⁶² *juridical questions* (v. 26),²³⁶³ *sarcastic/counter questions* (v. 27, cf. Smith, 1999: 197),²³⁶⁴ *aggressive talk* (v. 27),²³⁶⁵ *Moses-Jesus contrast* (vv. 28

²³⁵⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 252) opines that, “There is no evidence that this expression was used for excommunication from the synagogue, but ἐκβάλλειν, reinforced by ἔξω, is a powerful word (cf. 6:37; 12:42) probably deliberately used with a double meaning. Being put out of the meeting room is also a symbol for being put out of the Jewish religious community”. Cf. Pancaro, 1975: 101, 110; Keener, 2003: 794; Painter, 1993: 1957: 187-8; Blomberg, 2001: 155; Dods, 1967: 786-7; Robertson, 1932: 169-70.

²³⁵⁵ Gench (2007: 70) points out that, “In turning the tables on the authorities, asking his own questions of them, defending his healer with such daring, eloquence, and skill, the man once again functions as an *alter ego*, reflecting the manner in which Jesus will defend himself during his own official trials (John 18-19)”. Cf. Witherington, 1993: 316; Lindars, 1972: 349; Westcott, 1958: 149; Powell, 1962: 205; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 158-9.

²³⁵⁶ Bernard (1929: 334) considers this section as a *re-examination* (ἐκ δευτέρου, cf. v. 17). For more detail on the structure, literary discourse, and genre, see Via, 1975: 14-7.

²³⁵⁷ While in vv. 24b and 34a, the antagonists’ negative attitude toward Jesus is mentioned, in v. 31a, the healed man defends Jesus’ sinless nature.

²³⁵⁸ This development of the dialogue can be understood as a narratorial tactic in order to emphasise the sinlessness of Jesus. The seven utterance units of the dialogue (vv. 24b, 25, 26, 27, 28-29, 30-33, and 34a) are arranged in a peculiar fashion.

²³⁵⁹ Köstenberger (2004: 289; cf. Conway, 1999: 131; Carson, 1991: 372; Morris, 1995: 436; Barrett, 1978: 195) states that “The phrase ‘give glory to God’ constitutes a solemn exhortation to tell the truth and to make a confession with the implication that the person so exhorted has done wrong”. See also Schneiders, 1999: 155; Keener, 2003: 790; Witherington, 1995: 184; Von Wahlde, 2010: 435.

²³⁶⁰ Köstenberger (2004: 289; cf. Witherington, 1995: 389) discusses that, “The man is willing to leave the question of Jesus’ guilt to the theological experts: ‘Whether or not he is a sinner, I don’t know’”. Cf. Schneiders, 1999: 155; Gench, 2007: 69-70; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 344-5.

²³⁶¹ Bennema (2009: 141) considers the man’s witnessing in v. 25b as his empirical knowledge.

²³⁶² The healed man’s statement at v. 25b makes a contrast between his former/past life as a blind person (“now I was blind”) and his current/present life as one who sees (“now I see”).

²³⁶³ Cf. Bennema, 2009: 140; Keener, 2003: 790; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 250-1; Lindars, 1972: 347-9.

²³⁶⁴ Gench (2007: 70) considers it as “an exasperated question followed by a mocking question”. Cf. Resseguie, 1993: 143; Neyrey, 2007: 173-4; Gench, 2007: 70; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 344-5.

²³⁶⁵ Keener (2003: 789; cf. 792) opines that, “Feigned ignorance could function as a rhetorical device to challenge whether or not the narrative characterises the man as sophisticated enough to challenge his interrogators or whether they would be sophisticated enough to infer it as one possible way to understand him”. See Neyrey, 1993: 143; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 251; Westcott, 1958: 148.

Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 251),²³⁶⁶ *from astonishment to contrast* (v. 30),²³⁶⁷ *confession/testimony* (vv. 30-33),²³⁶⁸ and *rebuke-question* (v. 34a; see Table 90).²³⁶⁹ The tenets of *antithetical parallelism* appear three times within the slot (see vv. 25b, 28, 29). It has *arguments and counter arguments*,²³⁷⁰ *questions and counter questions* (vv. 26, 27, 34)²³⁷¹ and *insults and counter insults*²³⁷² those make the dialogue moving rhetorically. The apologetical nature of the dialogue is vivid, *first*, when the Jews attempt to defend Moses and their traditions over against Jesus, and *second*, when the healed man attempts to prove that Jesus is from God (παρὰ θεοῦ).

Utterance	Form	Content
Jews	Glory statement, knowing statement, negative remark	Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner
Healed man	Knowing-unknowing contrast, testimony, retelling, former-present contrast	I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see
Jews	Juridical questions	What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?
Healed man	Counter questions, sarcasm, revelation of 'not listening'	I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?
Jews	Knowing-unknowing contrast, Moses-Jesus contrast	You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from
Healed man	Astonishment, knowing-unknowing contrast, contrast, confession/retelling/testimony	Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing
Jews	Rebuke-question	You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?

Table 90: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 9:24-34

²³⁶⁶ Pancaro (1975: 106) states that, "The point which is of immediate concern to us here is the opposition between the μαθητῆς of Jesus and the μαθηταὶ τοῦ Μωϋσέως". Witherington (1995: 184) connects the aspect of misunderstanding by saying, "... not knowing Jesus' origins and destiny leads to inevitable misunderstanding of Jesus and his work".

²³⁶⁷ Brant (2011: 158) says that, "The man's response employs the rhetorical device of exclamation to express strong emotion, in this case indignation: 'This is bizarre, because you do not know where, even though he opened my eyes' (9:30)".

²³⁶⁸ Pancaro (1975: 106) says that, "His affirmation that Jesus is παρὰ θεοῦ is equivalent to a confession of faith, given the deeper meaning John gives to this expression". Cf. Keener, 2003: 789; Martyn, 1968: 35; Resseguie, 2001: 143; Schneiders, 1999: 154, 158, 164; Gench, 2007: 69-71; Lindars, 1972: 349; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 346.

²³⁶⁹ Cf. Schneiders, 1999: 160; Witherington, 1995: 184; Westcott, 1958: 149; Powell, 1962: 205.

²³⁷⁰ While the Pharisees argue that Jesus is a sinner and regard him as inferior to Moses, the healed man makes his arguments strong against that view (cf. vv. 25, 31-33).

²³⁷¹ Cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 283; Martyn, 1968: 34; Gench, 2007: 69; Von Wahlde, 2010: 435-6.

²³⁷² While the Jews insult the healer by addressing him as a "sinner" and continue their interrogation (vv. 24b, 26), the man sarcastically defends his position (v. 27). While they are trying to count him as a disciple of Jesus (as they already addressed him as a 'sinner'), he defends Jesus by saying that "we know that God does not listen to sinners" (v. 31). This further insults the Jews and they rebuke and send him away. The insult of the Jews as a result of the long defensive talk of the healed man ends with the angry ridicule of the Pharisees and their final verdict.

The chances of confrontation, controversy, and conflict are increased by way of introducing 'we-you', 'into know-not into know', and 'Moses-Jesus'²³⁷³ contrasts within the dialogue (Keener, 2009: 223-37).²³⁷⁴ It is apt to quote here what Painter (1993: 315) says about the "The development of the dialogue section reflects the situation of conflict with the synagogue". The *absent-but-present* or *in absentia* nature of the trial (or the juridical dialogue about Jesus' absence) is another notifying aspect of the dialogue.²³⁷⁶ The narrator also uses irony as yet another literary device within the slot (cf. Witherington, 1995: 184; Duke, 1985: 121-3). Stibbe (1993: 110-1; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 251) is of the view that, "Throughout the story, the irony is that the blind man, professing his ignorance, is really the character 'in the know', while the Pharisees/Jews, parading their knowledge, are in reality ignorant".²³⁷⁷ Other aspects of the rejection theme, ²³⁷⁸ lack of knowledge (v. 30)²³⁷⁹ and intolerant attitude (v. 34a)²³⁸⁰ of the dominant-inferior verbal exchange,²³⁸¹ and bold-talk of the inferior against the superior structures are significant features in the dramatic development of the slot (cf. Smith, 1999: 100). All these factors contribute to the *juridical and antithetical* progression of the dialogue.

The function of the dialogue can be recapitulated as follows. It reveals the developing tension between formative Judaism and the emerging minority group circumscribed around Jesus. The Jews raise repetitive questions (vv. 26, 34) and the healed man, though part of the minority, responds aggressively and sarcastically (vv. 27, 30-33).²³⁸³ The Jews first of all declare v

²³⁷³ Pancaro (1975: 109; Witherington, 1995: 184) says that, "In virtue of the 'Traditionsprinzip', the μαθηται like their master, have deviated from orthodox doctrine. To be a disciple of Moses is considered incompatible with becoming a disciple of Jesus". He (1975: 109; cf. Martyn, 1968: 34) says further that, "The view of John is contrary, is that, if one is a true μαθητής of Moses, one *should become a μαθητής of Jesus*".

²³⁷⁴ Powell (1990: 42) says that, "Conflict may occur at various levels. Most common, perhaps, is conflict between characters, which can usually be defined in terms of inconsistent points of view or incompatible character traits". Witherington, 1995: 184; Keener, 2003: 791; Resseguie, 2001: 143; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 344-6.

²³⁷⁵ Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 289-94; Keener, 2003: 789-94; Bernard, 1929: 336-7; Hoskyns, 1947: 357-9.

²³⁷⁶ Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 173; Witherington, 1995: 184; Maniampil, 2004: 283; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 344.

²³⁷⁷ The mounting blindness of the Pharisees/Jews (cf. 9:15, 16, 18, 24, 28-29, 34) presented over against the spiritual enlightenment of the healed man (9:11, 17, 33, 35, 38) is introduced with significance. Maniampil (2004: 284) says that, "There is a development in the blindness and obduracy of the Pharisees and the development in the spiritual enlightenment of the blind man". He (2004: 284; Painter, 1986: 31) says further that, "The blind man gradually in faith; he undertakes a journey of faith. The physical eyesight triggered this spiritual journey. The uses to describe Jesus indicate this". Stibbe (1993: 110) says further that, "These ironies are developed in the Pharisees in vv. 24-34. This satire derives entirely from the statements made by the Pharisees in their interview of the man born blind". Keener (2003: 790) finds another irony: "... the man does not respond the way that one would expect but he does glorify God by testifying of God's works through Jesus (9: 25-33) and then suffering the penal consequences which was one way to glorify God in truth (12:23-24; 21:19)".

²³⁷⁸ See Painter, 1993: 314-6; Keener, 2003: 792; Kemp, 2000: 242-3; Kanagaraj, 2005: 311-5.

²³⁷⁹ Cf. Martyn, 1968: 34; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 251-2; Westcott, 1958: 148-9.

²³⁸⁰ Cf. Martyn, 1968: 35; Resseguie, 2001: 143-4; Gench, 2007: 69-71; Von Wahlde, 2010: 436.

²³⁸¹ In this context, the Pharisees/Jews are the influential power-structure. But, the healed man's 'previously' blind-beggar, confessor of Jesus, and a person who has loyalty toward a minority group is within the narratorial framework.

²³⁸² The healed man's excommunication from the synagogue and Jesus' acceptance of him reveal the developing majority-minority conflicts.

²³⁸³ For more details about the character traits in the gospel traditions, refer to Powell, 1990: 58-67. Cf. Keener, 2003: 790-4; Bruce, 1983: 217-9.

know about Jesus: "Jesus is a sinner" (v. 24b).²³⁸⁴ As a response, the healed man firstly confesses his lack of knowledge about Jesus (v. 25a) and thus a contrast is drawn (v. 25b; cf. v. 24b).²³⁸⁵ The questions of the Jews and the healed man's counter-questions make the dialogue both controversial and conflictive. The verbal exchange becomes theologically pregnant at vv. 28-33.²³⁸⁶ While the Jews bring in a 'you-we' distinction between themselves and the man based on Moses-Jesus ideologies (vv. 28-29),²³⁸⁷ the man counters their response with another 'you-we' distinction that is based on the person of Jesus and his relation to the Father. The Jews on the one hand state their identity under the leadership of Moses and on the other hand consider the healed man as a follower of Jesus (vv. 28-29).²³⁸⁸ In his utterances (cf. vv. 25, 27, 30-33), the healed man emphasises his personal experience as the primary evidence of his belief in Jesus (cf. vv. 30-33).²³⁸⁹ This infuriates the lawyers and they count him as a sinner just as they weigh down Jesus as a sinner (v. 34; cf. v. 24b). This leads the dialogue to the dramatic driving out of the man from the synagogue (v. 34).²³⁹⁰ Neyrey (2007: 174) says: ". . . in the course of the narrative, the man born blind matures into an insightful, courageous person who boldly and publicly speaks about Jesus and even suffers public humiliation because of him".²³⁹¹ The Jewish intolerant attitude toward those who are out of their thought-world is clearly pictured both through their utterances and their negative action (v. 34).²³⁹² The majority-minority or powerful-powerless bifurcation²³⁹³ between formative Judaism and the emerging Christianity is conspicuously brought to the notice of the reader by the narrator.²³⁹⁴ Thus, John's narrative functions as a rhetorically intertwined critique of the prevailing social bias toward the minorities and the powerless (cf. Tolmie, 1999: 21-5). The narrator's use of the performative language and the characteristic vocabulary helps him to achieve his narratorial goal.²³⁹⁵

²³⁸⁴ His growing faith in Jesus made him a man of boldness and he continually testifies his experience (vv. 25, 27, 30-33). Cf. Westcott, 1958: 148; Bultmann, 1971: 335-6; Moloney, 1998: 294; Carson, 1991: 372-3; Bernard, 1929: 334; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 158; Strachan, 1941: 220; Barrett, 1978: 362.

²³⁸⁵ See what he says at v. 25: *first*, "I do not know whether he is a sinner"; and *second*, "I know that though I was blind, now I see". Cf. Howard, 1952: 618; Moloney, 1998: 295.

²³⁸⁶ See Ryle, 1957: 184-7; Bernard, 1929: 335-7; Stibbe, 1993: 106-7; Neyrey, 2007: 173; Robertson, 1932: 168.

²³⁸⁷ Cf. Westcott, 1958: 148; Blomberg, 2001: 155-6; Powell, 1962: 204; Painter, 1993: 313-5; Dods, 1967: 786.

²³⁸⁸ Here, two things are brought into the notice of the readers: *first*, the demarcation between the Pharisees and the healed man; and *second*, the distinction between Moses and Jesus. They clearly profess that they are the followers of Moses; hence against the healed man and Jesus.

²³⁸⁹ Smith (1999: 198) says that, "The once blind man now makes a telling, explicit argument (vv. 30-33). The sarcasm becomes deeper and more hostile (v. 30)". Cf. Kemp, 2000: 243; Neyrey, 2007: 173-4; Stibbe, 1993: 106-7; Powell, 1962: 205; Ryle, 1957: 185-7; Bennema, 2009: 141; Keener, 2003: 792-4; Strachan, 1941: 220; Köstenberger, 2004: 291-2; Moloney, 1998: 295; Bruce, 1983: 218-9; Blomberg, 2001: 155-6.

²³⁹⁰ See Westcott, 1958: 149; Lindars, 1972: 349; Bernard, 1929: 337; Pancaro, 1975: 105-11; Morgan, 1933: 168; Lee, 2010: 5-38; Tan, 1993: 50-89; Parsenios, 2010: 10-2; Duke, 1985: 121-3; Elam, 1980: 135-91.

²³⁹¹ Similarly, Painter (1986: 32; cf. Moloney, 1998: 294-5) says that, "While the growing perception of the blind man is dramatically described, the evangelist graphically depicts the growing opposition of the Pharisees who were progressively hardened in blindness (9:15-17, 18-23, 27, 29, 34, 39, 41)".

²³⁹² See Pancaro, 1975: 105-11; Howard, 1952: 618; Köstenberger, 2004: 293-4; Bennema, 2009: 141; Bultmann, 1971: 337; Morgan, 1933: 168; Robertson, 1932: 169-70.

²³⁹³ Resseguie (2001: 139) says that, "The marginalised and dominant characters exchange places. The cured man judges rightly (cf. 7:24) and gains everything: sight, life, salvation, a voice, and a point of view that exposes the strangeness of the dominant culture and its narcotised point of view". He (2001: 139) further says that, "By contrast, the dominant characters—the Pharisees—are captive to appearance judgment (7:24) and lose everything: sight, life, salvation, a voice, and a point of view that commands attention".

²³⁹⁴ Cf. Court, 1997: 1-8; Templeton, 1999: 53-65; Lothe, 2000: 3-10; Eco, 1979: 3-40; Vorster, 2009: 505-74.

²³⁹⁵ See Eco, 1984: 14-45; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 205-8; Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-29; Greimas, 1987: 63-83.

10.2.6. Slot Six (9:35-38)

The content of the *sixth* slot can be outlined as follows (cf. Barwise, 1998: 23-38; Greima 63-83). The slot (vv. 35-38) appears just as a flashback²³⁹⁶ scene, where the healed man is see Jesus for the first time (cf. vv. 1-7).²³⁹⁷ The narrator reports two important things in *first*, “Jesus heard that they had driven him out” (Ἦκουσεν Ἰησοῦς ὅτι ἐξέβαλον αὐτὸν ἐξ αὐτῶν; v. 35b; cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 437).²³⁹⁸ The dialogue when Jesus poses a question to the healed man, “Do you believe in the Son of Man” (πιστεύεις εἰς τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου; v. 35b; cf. Witherington, 1995: 184).²³⁹⁹ The man returns about the identity of the Son of Man and expresses his willingness to believe in him (τίς ἐστιν, κύριε, ἵνα πιστεύσω εἰς αὐτόν; v. 36; cf. Duke, 1985: 123; Smith, 1999: 19). Jesus discloses his identity as the Son of Man (Καὶ ἑώρακας αὐτὸν καὶ ὁ λαλῶν μετὰ σοῦ ἐκεῖνος v. 37)²⁴⁰⁰ and the man moves forward from willingness to action by uttering “Lord, I believe” (Πιστεύω, κύριε, v. 38a; cf. Martyn, 1968: 35; see Table 91).²⁴⁰¹ The sixth dialogue slot ends with a narratorial note that tells “and he worshipped him” (καὶ προσεκύνησεν αὐτῷ, v. 38b; cf. 2011: 159).²⁴⁰²

John 9:35-38	Overview
v.35: Ἦκουσεν Ἰησοῦς ὅτι ἐξέβαλον αὐτὸν ἐξ αὐτῶν καὶ εὐρών αὐτὸν εἶπεν· σὺ πιστεύεις εἰς τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου; v.36: ἀπεκρίθη ἐκεῖνος καὶ εἶπεν· καὶ τίς ἐστιν, κύριε, ἵνα πιστεύσω εἰς αὐτόν; v.37: εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· καὶ ἑώρακας αὐτὸν καὶ ὁ λαλῶν μετὰ σοῦ ἐκεῖνός ἐστιν.	(1) The dialogue in vv. 35-38 is comprised of four utterance units (vv. 35b, 36b, 37b, 38b); out of four utterance units, two are of Jesus (vv. 35b and 37b) and two are of the healed man (vv. 36b, 38b); (2) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i>

²³⁹⁶ Gench (2007: 71) says that, “The story . . . comes full circle, as the formerly blind man, dubbed a sinner, turned himself on the outside once again”. This brings the readers toward the unfinished scene of the first slot, where the healed man returned he was unable to meet and converse with Jesus. The conversation between Jesus and the healed man at vv. 35-38 is their first interaction within the episode.

²³⁹⁷ Martyn (1968: 35) considers the little dialogue as one that happens on “a street” (near the meeting place of Jesus and the healed man). Cf. Keener, 2003: 794-5; Kanagaraj, 2005: 315-7; Westcott, 1958: 149; Robertson, 1932: 170-1.

²³⁹⁸ Powell (1962: 205-6; cf. Kemp, 2000: 244; Strachan, 1941: 220; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 159) states that there is something warm and inviting about the phrase, ‘and when he had found him’. It presents a picture of Jesus hurrying along the streets eagerly seeking the man He had befriended. It should be remembered that the healed man had never seen the face of the Lord”.

²³⁹⁹ Wallace (1996: 359) says, “The entire construction indicates motion. For example, πιστεύω + ἐν is the construction of πιστεύω + εἰς (cf. Mark 1:15; John 3:15). The idea is ‘put one’s faith into’ even though ἐν is used”. Cf. 1989-90; Neyrey, 2007: 176; Morris, 1995: 439; Bennema, 2009: 141-2; Morgan, 1933: 169.

²⁴⁰⁰ According to Painter (1993: 319-20), “What emerges in 9:13-39 is that the growing perception of Jesus in his self-revelation as Son of Man and as Son of Man he was worshipped by the once blind man. Consequently the dialogues with the man are bounded by Jesus’ revelation of himself as the light of the world and the Son of Man in 9:35-38”. Milne (1993: 142) views that, “The reference here (i.e., about ‘Son of Man’ figure of Dan 7, the one who will exercise judgment”. See Kemp, 2000: 244; Robertson, 1932: 170.

²⁴⁰¹ Bennema (2009: 141-2; cf. Painter, 1986: 39-40) is of the opinion that, “This title (i.e., Son of Man) is used exclusively by Jesus himself, mostly referring to his death expressed as being ‘lifted up’ (3:14; 6:62; 8:28; 9:31) and it also denotes Jesus as mediator, the point of contact between heaven and earth (1:51; 3:13)”. He (2009) further that, “In this capacity, Jesus offers the blind man an opportunity to encounter the divine reality”.

²⁴⁰² P75, Sinaiticus, and a few others do not have vv. 38-39a. Some scholars think, as a result, that this is a liturgical interpolation due to the use of the chapter in connection with baptism (cf. Talbert, 1992: 162; Von Wahlde, 2010: 2: 437). Also see Keener, 2003: 794-5; Lindars, 1972: 351; Vincent, 1969: 187.

v.38: ὁ δὲ ἔφη· πιστεύω, κύριε· καὶ προσεκύνησεν αὐτῷ.	(vv. 35a, 38c) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 35a, 36a, 37a, 38a).
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Table 91: The dialogue of 9:35-38 within the narratorial framework

The form of the dialogue can be seen as follows (cf. Press, 2007: 55-73). The following talk-units are parts of the dialogical framework of the slot: *belief-question* (v. 35b), *christological question* (v. 35b; cf. Duke, 1985: 123; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 40),²⁴⁰³ *unknowing question/identity question* (v. 36a),²⁴⁰⁴ *belief statement* (v. 36b), *revelatory statement/identity revelation* (v. 37)²⁴⁰⁵ and *confession*²⁴⁰⁶/*belief statement* (v. 38; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 252-4; see Table 92).²⁴⁰⁷ The dialogue is ordered in the following format: *first*, Jesus invites the healed man to *believe* in the Son of Man (v. 35b); *second*, the healed man inquires about the identity of the Son of Man and expresses his willingness to *believe* (cf. Smith, 1999: 199); *third*, Jesus reveals his identity as the Son of Man; *fourth*, the healed man confesses his *belief* in him; and *fifth*, he *worships* Jesus (cf. Brant, 2011: 159).²⁴⁰⁸ The healed man's encounter²⁴⁰⁹ ends with a *verbal confession* followed by a *non-verbal act of worship* (v. 38).²⁴¹⁰ The four talk-units and the final action develop in the following fashion: *belief-invitation*, *belief-willingness*, *revelation*, *belief-confession*, and *belief-actualisation* (cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 794-5).²⁴¹¹ In the dialogue, Jesus' *revelation*, the man's *belief* and the resultant *action* are the unifying factors (cf. Brant, 2011: 159).²⁴¹² In the first slot, the blind man comes back able to see; but not able to see Jesus. This issue invites the attention of the reader

²⁴⁰³ Bennema (2009: 141) considers Jesus question as a "puzzling" type. Ridderbos (1987/1997: 347; also see 348) says, "The question . . . invites an affirmative answer: 'You believe in the Son of Man, do you not?'"

²⁴⁰⁴ Duke (1985: 123) says that, "The man's reply, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' is exactly like the other two instances of 'irony of identity' we have observed (4:19-26; 20:14-16). In all three cases, a character, not knowing who Jesus is, addresses him as kurie and makes reference to Messiah/Son of Man/Jesus—thought to be absent. In all three Jesus then quickly reveals his identity in the most appropriate way".

²⁴⁰⁵ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 253; cf. Witherington, 1995: 184; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 348) says that, "Now Jesus allows himself to be clearly recognised. With the (καὶ . . . καὶ) construction he directs the eyes of the man in front of him to himself as he talks to him".

²⁴⁰⁶ Cf. Martyn, 1968: 35; Bennema, 2009: 141; Schneiders, 1999: 164; Gench, 2007: 71; Witherington, 1995: 184.

²⁴⁰⁷ Von Wahlde (2010: 2: 437) says that, "The term kyrie has appeared earlier in v. 36, where it almost certainly had the meaning 'Sir'. However, here in v. 38, it is used in the man's confession of belief in Jesus and is accompanied by the man's prostration in worship before Jesus". See Brown, 1966: 375; Bernard, 1929: 337-9.

²⁴⁰⁸ Witherington (1995: 184) comments that, "The response of the man reflects ignorance but also respectfulness. The man *desires* to be informed so he may believe in him. Jesus identifies himself as this self-same Son of Man, and the response is a confession of faith: 'I believe', followed by prostration". Cf. Brown, 1966: 375; Milne, 1993: 142-3; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 254; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 159.

²⁴⁰⁹ See Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 253; Howard, 1952: 619; Bernard, 1929: 337-9; Moloney, 1998: 295-6.

²⁴¹⁰ Gench (2007: 71; cf. O'Day, 2002: 661; Bennema, 2009: 141) opines that, "In worshipping Jesus, the man acknowledges the very presence of God in him (4:20-24; 12:20), ironically fulfilling the authorities' demand that he 'give glory to God' (9:24)".

²⁴¹¹ Martyn (1968: 35) says that, "The preacher knows that the man is just at the point of readiness for a genuine Christian confession, and so puts to him the decision of faith. The beggar responds readily with words addressed to his true healer: 'Lord, I believe'". Cf. Schneiders, 1999: 164; Köstenberger, 2004: 294; Howard, 1952: 619.

²⁴¹² The dialogue is a *question and counter-question centered* (vv. 35b, 36a), *revelatory* (vv. 37-38) and *belief-oriented* (vv. 35b, 36, 38a) one. See Neyrey, 2007: 176; Milne, 1993: 142-3; Köstenberger, 2004: 294.

toward the *surprise*²⁴¹³ development in the episode (cf. vv. 11-12, 25, 30-33) and pro *flashback* climax later on (vv. 35-38, 39-41; cf. Smith, 1999: 198-9; Chatman, 1978: 59 Jesus' revelation to the man and his activity of confession and the subsequent worship a reckoned with as end results of a series of suspenses and surprises.

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Belief-question, Christological question	Do you believe in the Son of Man?
Healed man	Unknowing question, identity question, request, belief statement	And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may be him
Jesus	Revelatory statement, identity revelation	You have seen him, and the one speaking with he
Healed man	Confession, belief statement	Lord, I believe

Table 92: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 9:35-38

The function of the dialogue can be understood as follows (cf. Tan, 1993: 50-88). In vv. 3:18, 24, 28; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 40).²⁴¹⁵ Toward the end of the two dramatic episodes 7:1-8:59 and in 9:1-41, the narrator broaches certain levels of parallelism: in 8:59, the Jew up stones and Jesus hid and went out of the temple; and in 9:34, the healed man is driver Parsenios, 2010: 10-2; Genette, 1980: 33).²⁴¹⁶ In this sense, this flashback slot functions "dialogue of the ousted ones". The end of the fifth slot and the beginning of the sixth slot function in a contrasting format: while the Jews 'drove him (the healed man) out', Jesus 'found 35a; cf. 34b; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 252-3).²⁴¹⁷ The final narratorial note of the (i.e., "And they drove him out", v. 34b) is also contrasted with the final narratorial note in slot (i.e., "And he worshipped him", v. 38b; cf. Witherington, 1995: 184).²⁴¹⁸ Though he is out, the blind man strongly affirms his faith in Jesus and finally worships him (v. 38; Wahlde, 2010: 2: 437).²⁴¹⁹ The narrator proceeds from the man's excommunication from the Synagogue (v. 34b) to his acceptance within the Jesus circle (vv. 35-38; cf. Martyn, 1968: 100). The man believes, overcomes fear of excommunication and comes to know Jesus as the Son of Man.²⁴²¹ The elements, like questions, counter-questions, revelation, and the final confession and worship, are dynamically working within the slot in order to convey a

²⁴¹³ *Surprise* (also suspense) is important in fiction as well as in drama, but having real objects and interacting in real space, makes surprise in plays even more dynamic and interesting.

²⁴¹⁴ The *flashback* is complete by the last two scenes (vv. 35-8, 39-41).

²⁴¹⁵ Cf. Bernard, 1929: 337-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 159; Moloney, 1998: 295-6; Brown, 1966: 375-6.

²⁴¹⁶ See Powell, 1962: 205; Morgan, 1933: 168-70; Westcott, 1958: 149; Bennema, 2009: 141-2.

²⁴¹⁷ Keener (2003: 1: 794) opines that, "The Father seeks true worshippers (4:23), and Jesus, who does the will (9:3-4), seeks this man out in 9:35; parallel language in 1:43 and 5:14 strongly suggests that this implies Jesus' intention". Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 112; Brown, 1966: 375; Resseguie, 2001: 140; Moloney, 1998: 295.

²⁴¹⁸ Köstenberger (2004: 294-5; cf. Howard, 1952: 619) is of the view that, "'He worshipped him' is a precrucifixion reference to worship of Jesus in this Gospel (cf. 20:28)".

²⁴¹⁹ See Spivey and Smith, 1969: 416-25; Köstenberger, 2004: 294-5; Milne, 1993: 143.

²⁴²⁰ While the man is excommunicated from the mainstream Jewish community, he is well accepted in the Jesus movement.

²⁴²¹ Smith (1999: 199) opines that, "... the ambiguity is intentional, for the word (i.e., *kyrie*) is both the position address and the Christological title". Cf. Painter, 1986: 37; Bernard, 1929: 337-8; Köstenberger, 2004: 294-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 159.

to the reader (cf. Chatman, 1978: 147-50; Eco, 1979: 3-43). The narrator makes it clear that both 'seeing' and 'speaking' are parts of the narrative dynamism. It is not only seeing Jesus but also encountering him that makes the healed man a confessor and finally a worshipper. In the slot, the narrator skillfully articulates the message by the help of the rhetorical language (cf. Vorster, 2009: 505-78; Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-34).

10.2.7. Slot Seven (9:39-41)

The semantic domains of the *seventh* dialogic slot can be assessed as follows (cf. Greimas, 1987: 63-83). The slot (9:39-41)²⁴²² has three utterance units, two of Jesus (vv. 39, 41) and one of the Pharisees (v. 40b).²⁴²³ The first utterance of Jesus conveys two important things: *first*, the 'why' of his coming into the world (Εἰς κρίμα ἐγὼ εἰς τὸν κόσμον τοῦτον ἦλθον, v. 39a);²⁴²⁴ and *second*, the 'what' of his coming into the world (ἵνα οἱ μὴ βλέποντες βλέπωσιν καὶ οἱ βλέποντες τυφλοὶ γίνωνται, v. 39b; cf. Dodd, 1963: 327-8; Gench, 2007: 71-2).²⁴²⁵ Though the first utterance is placed at the beginning of the seventh slot, it links the sixth and the seventh slots (v. 39; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 72-6).²⁴²⁶ In v. 40a, it is narrated that "some of the Pharisees near him heard this". The actual dialogue begins at this point. They raise a misunderstanding question to Jesus: "Surely we are not blind, are we?" (Μὴ καὶ ἡμεῖς τυφλοὶ ἐσμεν; v. 40b; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 144; Painter, 1993: 316-7).²⁴²⁷ Jesus' response to them is: Εἰ τυφλοὶ ἦτε, οὐκ ἂν εἶχετε ἁμαρτίαν· νῦν δὲ λέγετε ὅτι Βλέπομεν, ἡ ἁμαρτία ὑμῶν μένει (v. 41; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 256; Witherington, 1995: 185; see Table 93).²⁴²⁸ The Pharisees' question in v. 40b is placed between the two utterances of Jesus (cf. v. 39 and v. 41). The content of the dialogue is about the judgment that Jesus brings into the world, i.e., those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.

²⁴²² Martyn (1968: 36) considers the event as one that happens on the same street. The evangelist's interpretative layer in 9:39-41 appears to link with 9:4-5. Cf. Painter, 1993: 306; Haenchen, 1980/1984: 41.

²⁴²³ Brant (2011: 159) says that, "The principal action—Jesus' response to allegations and his counteraccusations—begins once more when the narrator brings into view some Pharisees who overhear the conversation". Cf. Powell, 1962: 206-7; Barrett, 1978: 365-6; Ryle, 1957: 191-5; Dodd, 1963: 327-8; Bultmann, 1971: 339-42.

²⁴²⁴ Bennema (2009: 142; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 144; Brant, 2011: 159; Talbert, 1992: 162) says, "In 9:39, Jesus sums up the implications of his coming as the light of the world". Schnackenburg (1980: 255) says that, "Since the man has now become sighted in a double sense. Jesus makes a profound statement based on this symbolism. His coming means a κρίμα, 'a sentence or judicial decision', here technically equivalent to κρίσις, Jesus in practice exercises the judicial activity, κρίνειν, mentioned in 5:22-23, 27a, 30".

²⁴²⁵ Von Wahlde (2010: 444) says that, "In v. 39, we see the Johannine version of the so-called 'hardening' statements of the synoptics. The theme of judgment is also introduced suddenly and unexpectedly. Jesus now affirms his role as apocalyptic judge, bringing the blind to sight and bringing those claiming to see to blindness". Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 176; Blomberg, 2001: 156-7; Keener, 2003: 795-6; Morgan, 1933: 171; Robertson, 1932: 171.

²⁴²⁶ Painter (1986: 40) says that, "This new phase linked to the previous one by v. 39, which is appropriate to both. However, while, in the previous section, sight and blindness are seen to be possibilities created by the coming of the light, in 9:40-41 the blindness of the Pharisees is pronounced definitively and permanently". See Lindars, 1972: 351; Ryle, 1957: 191-5; Blomberg, 2001: 156-7; Barrett, 1978: 365-6; Carson, 1991: 377-9; Bruce, 1983: 220-1.

²⁴²⁷ Gench (2007: 71) opines that, "Sin has nothing to do with being born blind (9:2, 34), or violating the law (9:16, 24, 29), but rather with resistance to Jesus, with refusing to see when the light of the world and the works of God in him are right before them". See Powell, 1962: 206-7; Kemp, 2000: 245; Barrett, 1978: 365-6; Carson, 1991: 377-9; Vincent, 1969: 188; Westcott, 1958: 150; Dods, 1967: 787-8.

²⁴²⁸ For more details about the light-darkness [or sight-blindness] contrast, see Smith, 1999: 200. Cf. Painter, 1993: 316-7; Kemp, 2000: 245; Neyrey, 2007: 176; Bultmann, 1971: 339-42; Barrett, 1978: 365-6; Blomberg, 2001: 156-7; Lindars, 1972: 352; Bennema, 2009: 142; Morris, 1995: 442.

John 9:39-41	Overview
<p>v.39: Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς· εἰς κρίμα ἐγὼ εἰς τὸν κόσμον τοῦτον ἦλθον, ἵνα οἱ μὴ βλέποντες βλέπωσιν καὶ οἱ βλέποντες τυφλοὶ γένωνται.</p> <p>v.40: ἤκουσαν ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων ταῦτα οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ ὄντες καὶ εἶπον αὐτῷ· μὴ καὶ ἡμεῖς τυφλοὶ ἐσμεν;</p> <p>v.41: εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· εἰ τυφλοὶ ἦτε, οὐκ ἂν εἶχετε ἁμαρτίαν· νῦν δὲ λέγετε ὅτι βλέπομεν, ἡ ἁμαρτία ὑμῶν μένει.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 39-41 is comprised of three utterance units (vv. 39b, 40b, 41b); out of the three utterance units, two are of Jesus (vv. 39b, 40b) and one is of the Pharisees (v. 40b);</p> <p>(2) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 39b, 40b) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 39a, 40a);</p>

Table 93: The dialogue of 9:39-41 within the narratorial framework

The above analysis of the content helps us to notify the way the talk-forms overlap within *purpose/enigmatic/metaphorical utterance* (v. 39),²⁴²⁹ *ἦλθον-saying* (v. 39a)²⁴³⁰/*ἐγὼ-saying* (v. 39a),²⁴³¹ *paradox* (vv. 39, 41),²⁴³² *surprise question/misunderstanding* (v. 40b), *enigmatic/figurative utterance/paradox* (v. 41).²⁴³⁴ The literary elements like *anaphora* (v. 39),²⁴³⁵ *double-entendre* (cf. Talbert, 1992: 162),²⁴³⁶ *symbolism* (vv. 39, 40),²⁴³⁷ *counter-question* (v. 40)²⁴³⁸ and *multivalence* (vv. 39, 41; cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 205)²⁴³⁹ are dynamic processes of meaning-making (s

²⁴²⁹ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 350) is of the opinion that, "... reference to those who are 'blind' or 'deaf' is metaphorical. But the idea is not that the miracle has only a figurative meaning and that the healing of the blind did not belong to the works of God (v. 3; cf. 5:17-20)". He (1987/1997: 350) says further that, "But the miracle of Jesus' coming as the light of the world is not limited to the removal of physical blindness; it calls for a decision not given with the miracle itself".

²⁴³⁰ Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 255; Gench, 2007: 71; Kemp, 2000: 244; Keener, 2003: 795-6.

²⁴³¹ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 255) says that, "The division into the sighted and the blind is brought about by the attitude to the person of Jesus (the emphatic ἐγὼ)".

²⁴³² Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 255; Witherington, 1995: 180; Keener, 2003: 795-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 210; Morris, 1995: 441-2; Blomberg, 2001: 156.

²⁴³³ The nature of *ambiguity* or *misunderstanding* of Jesus' interlocutors is once again brought to the attention of the readers (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 255). Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 350-1; Gench, 2007: 71; Carson, 1991: 180.

²⁴³⁴ Jesus ends the entire episode by another figurative statement at v. 41. Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 256; cf. 1987/1997: 350-1) says that, "He doesn't say what would have been the obvious remark, 'Yes, you are blind', but a typical dialectic, rebukes them for claiming to have sight".

²⁴³⁵ Though the narrator uses antithetical parallelism as a literary figure, there is synonymous parallelism in the previous episode (chaps. 7 and 8) and latter episode (chap. 9). Mlakuzhyil (1987: 210; cf. Brant, 2004: 123) says that, "Both in John 7-8 and in John 9 Jesus passes judgment on the unbelieving Pharisees that they will die in the 21, 24) or that their sin remains (9:41)".

²⁴³⁶ Von Wahlde (2010: 444-5) is of the opinion that, "... Jesus' words to the man born blind 'You have seen him' are a true *double entendre*, for the man has now seen him physically and spiritually. In turn, the Pharisees ask the ones who are 'blind' [i.e., spiritually] and so, for the only time in the Gospel, understand Jesus' words on a spiritual level! Jesus in turn responds by interpreting his own words *on the physical level*, something he also does anywhere else in the Gospel". Resseguie (2001: 144; cf. Witherington, 1995: 185) sees, "Their (Pharisees') prescient words are Panglossian: 'Surely we are not blind, are we?' (9:40)".

²⁴³⁷ Von Wahlde (2010: 445; cf. Bennema, 2009: 143) says that, "As the understanding of the man increases, the authorities' failure to see also increases. This symbolism of 'seeing' and 'blindness' is presented and developed here". Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 255; Von Wahlde, 2010: 445; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 160-2.

²⁴³⁸ As the monologue section at 10:1-21 is an extension of 9:1-41 the literary features of this piece are worth mentioning. Many of them are rhetorical in nature. The monologue section also employs *Amen statements* (vv. 1, 7) and *I am sayings* (vv. 7, 9, 11, 14).

²⁴³⁹ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 256; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 176) says that, "Jesus' answer (v. 41) combines a number of meanings". See the layers of meaning he explains here.

94). In the dialogue, *judicial tones*²⁴⁴⁰ are once again present as the Pharisees come in direct verbal interaction with Jesus (cf. Talbert, 1992: 162). The *rejection theme* is reflective through the *sarcastic and misunderstanding* nature of the interlocutors (v. 40b; cf. Keener, 2003: 796; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 256). Stibbe (1993: 111) sees an *irony* in v. 40. In his opinion, the *irony* is the fact that the speaker is expecting the answer ‘no’, while the reader knows that the answer is ‘yes’ (cf. Duke, 1985: 124-5). The usage of *subtext*²⁴⁴¹ (9:39, 41; 10:1-6) and *decorum*²⁴⁴² increases the aspects of suspense and surprise within the overall development of the slot. The progression of the slot from an enigmatic utterance (v. 39) to a dialogue (vv. 40-41) is intertwined with dramatic features (cf. Martyn, 1968: 36; Brant, 2011: 159). Painter (1993: 308; cf. Duke, 1985: 51, 78, 113, 126) says that, “In 9:39-41 sight and blindness have a harmonic relationship with light and darkness”. What Painter says here is appropriate as the dualistic theme of the slot merges into the larger theme of the gospel. Thus the narrator emphasises the *antithetical nature* of the dialogue by the help of all the utterance-forms and literary devices.

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	Purpose statement, enigmatic utterance, paradox, symbolism	I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind
Pharisees	Surprise question, misunderstanding	Surely we are not blind, are we?
Jesus	Enigmatic utterance, paradox	If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see’, your sin remains

Table 94: ‘Form’ and ‘Content’ of utterance units in John 9:39-41

The seventh slot (vv. 39-41) turns out to be an extended metaphorical monologue cum community dialogue in 10:1-21. It functions as a link-slot between the seven-scene dramatic dialogue (9:1-41) and the succeeding *παροιμία*²⁴⁴³ of the shepherd and the robber (cf. Martyn, 1968: 36; Brant, 2011: 159).²⁴⁴⁴ While the slot begins with Jesus’ statement about *judgment* (v. 39a), it ends with his other statement on the Pharisaic nature of *remaining in sin* (v. 41b; cf. Smith, 1999: 200). Thus the *sin-and-judgment* theme of the gospel is sustained within the slot by way of dialogical interactions

²⁴⁴⁰ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 255; Schneiders, 1999: 164; Neyrey, 2007: 176) is of the opinion that, “His [Jesus] coming means κρίμα, ‘a sentence or judicial decision’, here technically equivalent to κρίσις, Jesus in practice exercises the judicial activity, κρίνειν, mentioned in 5:22-23, 27a, 30”. He (1980: 2: 255) further says that, “The cutting edge of the judgment is shown in the fact that those who do not see become sighted and the sighted become blind. This paradoxical language is a stylistic device which also appears in synoptic sayings of Jesus; Mark 8:35; Matthew 10:26; Luke 12:51; 14:26”.

²⁴⁴¹ Creating disparity between the meaning of the words spoken and the hidden motives and suppressed desires of a character is likely to create a multi-layered drama and piles of tension. The true meaning beneath what is overtly said is what is known as “subtext” and is often used in plays to captivate an audience.

²⁴⁴² What is said is appropriate to the role and situation of a character. Here Jesus’ words to the Pharisees in the last scene (9:39-41) is appropriate because it was said in the backdrop of the healing of the blind man.

²⁴⁴³ NRSV translates it as a “Figure of Speech”. In John 10:6 the FE states that Jesus has just presented a *παροιμία* (a “riddle”) that the crowds did not understand. This being the case, whatever readers today may think about the parable of the Shepherd and the Stranger in John 10:1-5, the FE clearly thought that it was some kind of verbal puzzle. See Thatcher, 2006: 48-9; Van der Watt, 2000: xvii-xxi; Köstenberger, 2004: 302.

²⁴⁴⁴ For more information about dialogue and pragmatics, refer to Tan, 1993: 50-89. Cf. Dodd, 1960: 358-9; Dodd, 1963: 327; Keener, 2003: 797; Morris, 1995: 444; Bruce, 1983: 223.

between the characters.²⁴⁴⁵ While the Pharisees weigh down both Jesus and the healed ‘sinners’ and progress with their forensic inquiry (vv. 13-34, especially at vv. 24b and 34) the real judge “from above” judges his counterparts on account of their status of *remainsin*.²⁴⁴⁶ Dodd (1963: 273) is of the view that, “The expression ἀμαρτίαν ἔχειν is peculiar to the Fourth Gospel and First John among NT writings (cf. John 15:24, 1 John 1:7), and μένειν is to which our evangelist is excessively addicted”.²⁴⁴⁷ Dodd’s words here confirm that the utterances in vv. 39-41 are attempts to merge the episode to the overall framework of the Gospel. Jesus’ words here are sharpened with rhetoric and literary characteristics that further interest the reader with the episode (cf. Vorster, 2009: 505-78). His two utterances in vv. 39 and 41 are reckoned as the punch-line statements of the episode (cf. Gench, 2007: 71).²⁴⁴⁸

The purpose of Jesus’ coming from “above” to “below” is revealed through his first utterance in v. 39 (see Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 255-6). Similarly, narrator’s inclusion of Jesus’ final statement in v. 41 brings into focus the paradoxical nature of the Pharisees (v. 41; cf. Tolmie, 1999: 39-62; 1990: 51-7). Kemp (2000: 244) says that, “The decisive factor that determines whether any person will see or become blind spiritually is not arbitrary decision or action on God’s part, assigning people to one destiny or the other, but in each person’s response to the light which God sends . . . the very presence of Jesus forces a division as people must decide for or against him”.²⁴⁴⁹ This division contributes to the dramatic and dialogic development of the episode (cf. Parsenik, 2010: 10-2). While the Pharisees’ question in v. 40b reveals their misunderstanding, unrepentant disbelief,²⁴⁵⁰ the character of the healed man functions as a foil to reveal several facts to the reader. Jesus reveals his identity, both as the light of the world and as a judge from above.

²⁴⁴⁵ Stibbe (1993: 108; cf. Morris, 1995: 441-2; Blomberg, 2001: 156-7) is of the opinion that, “In the *dénouement* of the story, the accused states: ‘For judgment (κρίμα) I have come into this world’ (v. 39). Jesus pronounces judgment on his accusers: ‘Your guilt remains’ (v. 41). Much of the irony of the story derives from Jesus’ ability to judge even when he is apparently in the dock”. Beasley-Murray (1987: 160; cf. Bornkamm, 1971: 71) comments that, “The opening sentence in v. 39 draws the lesson from the story narrated in vv. 1-38. It makes the healing of the born blind a symbol of the grace and judgment which Jesus brings into the world”.

²⁴⁴⁶ Bruce (1983: 220) comments that, “There is a *prima facie* discrepancy between this passage and those in which Jesus says that he did not come to judge the world (John 3:17; 12:47). But there is no real discrepancy. Jesus is not saying here that he has come to execute judgment; rather, his presence and activity in the world themselves constitute a judgment”. Neyrey (2007: 176) says that, “. . . a *court* is still in session, with Jesus now in the role of judge. Jesus’ coming into this world for judgment’ (9:39). This resumes the claim he made earlier: ‘I have much to say about you who do not believe’ (8:26)”.

²⁴⁴⁷ μένειν occurs about forty times, and frequently in a pregnant sense, as here, against a dozen times in the Synoptic Gospels. See Stibbe, 1993: 109; Bennema, 2009: 142-3.

²⁴⁴⁸ Painter (1993: 312-3) is of the opinion that, “. . . 9:39 is the impressive final pronouncement and the climax of the conflict for the Pharisees is stated in 9:40-41”.

²⁴⁴⁹ Keener (2003: 795) says that, “John earlier affirms that Jesus did not come to judge the world (3:17; cf. 12:47). Here (9:39) he claims that he came to bring about judgment (a characteristic messianic mission); the judgment to divide people into two groups, those who heed the light and those who reject it (also 3:19; cf. 1 John 1:9).” Bennema, 2009: 142-3; Powell, 1962: 206.

²⁴⁵⁰ Beasley-Murray (1987: 160) says that, “. . . since they continue in their unbelief, their sin ‘remains’ and they remain in their guilt of rejection of the Light, and so condemn themselves to their self-chosen darkness”.

of his *absent-but-present*²⁴⁵¹ dialogical interactions. While the narrator invites the attention of the reader toward Jesus (cf. Tolmie, 1999: 21-8; Genette, 1980: 101, 166), the reader is persuaded to follow Jesus the light of the world (cf. Moore, 1989: 71-107; Lategan, 2009: 457-84). The performative function of the language is at view here (see Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-35).

10.2.8. The Dialogue Turns to a Monologue (10:1-18)

Scholars like Moloney consider the section 9:39-10:21 together as a separate unit.²⁴⁵² In that sense 9:39-41 serves both as a *conclusion* (to the foregoing dialogue section, 9:1-38) and as an *introduction* (to the upcoming monologue section, 10:1-18).²⁴⁵³ A *dialogue-monologue-narratorial* blend is the characteristic feature of the *dialogue-turned-monologue* episode at 9:1-10:21 (cf. Smith, 1999: 204-6). Again within the larger unit of 9:39-10:21, the section 10:1-21 is set apart as an independent unit. Blomberg (2001: 158; cf. Strachan, 1941: 221) comments on 10:1-21 as follows: "Despite the chapter break, Jesus apparently continues to address the Pharisees . . . Links with the Tabernacles continue. Jesus is not only living water and light for the world, but the messianic shepherd who will preserve his flock in ways that Moses could not".²⁴⁵⁴ In chap. 10:1-18, John's symbolic language is further strengthened by way of employing metaphors like 'door', 'shepherd', and 'sheep' (cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 46-9; Talbert, 1992: 166).²⁴⁵⁵ Van der Watt (2000:

²⁴⁵¹ While Jesus is present he reveals his identity through his own words; but, while he is absent the healed person acts as a mouthpiece of Jesus in order to reveal several factors. This *absent-but-present* nature of Jesus within the episode is unfolded effectively through the narratorial dynamics of the narrator.

²⁴⁵² This section is divided into five sub-sections: *first*, Introduction: Jesus is questioned by the Pharisees and he condemns them for their blind arrogance (9:39-41); *second*, Jesus uses a parable about entering the sheepfold and the Pharisees fail to understand the significance (10:1-6); *third*, Jesus contrasts himself, through the metaphors of 'the door' and 'the Good Shepherd', with others who are thieves, robbers, and hirelings (10:7-13; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 302-6); *fourth*, Jesus the Good Shepherd, out of union with the Father, lays down his life for his sheep (10:14-18); and *fifth*, Conclusion: A *schismata* among "the Jews" (10:19-21). Cf. Bernard, 1929: 339-41; Hunter, 1965: 100. Milne (1993: 145) says that, "The passage is parabolic in form and Jesus uses several images somewhat interchangeably". Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 168-9; Brown, 1966: 385-6, 388-9, 391-2. Hunter (1965: 101; also see Hunter, 1968: 82) is of the view that, ". . . in John 10 the Pharisees are accused of being hireling and heartless shepherds, and the veiled claim is made that in Christ's mission God's promise of deliverance is fulfilled". The section at 10:1-18 can also be divided into three sections: *first*, the parable on entering the sheepfold (vv. 1-6); *second*, the contrast between the good shepherd and others (vv. 7-13); and *third*, Jesus, the Messianic good shepherd (vv. 14-18; cf. Moloney, 1998: 302-5). Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 170-2; Brown, 1966: 387, 389-91, 396-7; Strachan, 1941: 221-7.

²⁴⁵³ The literary devices of *conclusion* and *introduction* are employed by the narrator here. This feature of the narrative establishes the connection between 9:1-41 and 10:1-21. Hunter (1965: 101) states that, "Judgment was the theme with which chap. 9 ended, and the link with what now follows. Its core is a long allegorical parable in which Jesus indicts the Pharisees as unworthy rulers of Israel".

²⁴⁵⁴ Culpepper (1983: 93) opines that, "In many respects chap. 9 and the first part of chap. 10 form an interpretive interlude. The pitch of the hostility seems to drop, and the manoeuvrings to arrest Jesus make little progress". Stibbe also has the same opinion. He (1993: 113) states that, "In spite of appearances, there is a sense of sequence between the story of the man born blind and the shepherd discourse in John 10. There is an analepsis with John 9 in 10:21: 'Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?'" Bennema (2005: 114) points out that, "John 10 introduces a new topic, but not a new audience; Jesus is still speaking to the Jewish religious leaders we met in John 9".

²⁴⁵⁵ Hunter (1968: 82; cf. Wead, 1970: 87-92) opines that, "This is 'a simple parable drawn from early Palestinian tradition'. Its pastoral imagery recalls the 'shepherd' sayings in the synoptics (Mark 6:34; 14:7; Matthew 10:16; Luke 15:3-6; 19:10), and Jesus' description of the disciples as his 'little flock' (Luke 12:32; cf. Mic 5:4)". Hunter (1968: 82) further says that, "For Old Testament background, we remember that in Eze 34 (cf. also 37:24) God denounces the false shepherds (or rulers) of Israel and promises to set over his people as Shepherd Messiah of David's line".

22; cf. Brant, 2011: 160-2) rightly opines that, “The divine can only be described in earth by means of earthly associations and categories Although human concepts are used, it is made to a divine reality. The necessity for this type of metaphorical language lies in the distinctiveness of divine reality”. John’s portrayal²⁴⁵⁶ of the episode appears in its proper proportion at 10:1-18 for the sake of describing the distinctive nature of divine reality (cf. Ball, 1999: 204-9; Witherington, 1995: 186-90).

The structure of the discourse can be understood as follows. Jesus revealed the ‘dark’ side of the Pharisees/Jews and brought the blind man to light in 9:1-41. In 10:1-18, the Pharisees/Jews are the target of Jesus’ criticism (10:1-18). The narrative at v. 6 broadly divides the monologue into two parts (i.e., vv. 1-5 and vv. 7-18).²⁴⁵⁷ Both the sections begin with the *ὁὐκ ἔγνω* formula (v. 1a and v. 7b; cf. Painter, 1993: 343-6). The second section (vv. 7-18) has *ὁὐκ ἔγνω* formulas at vv. 7, 9a, 11a, 14a (cf. Talbert, 1992: 166).²⁴⁵⁸

- A Thieves and bandits: Do not enter the sheepfold by the gate (v. 1)
- B The shepherd of the sheep: Enters by the gate (vv. 2-4)
- A’ Strangers: Sheep do not follow; sheep do not know their voice (v. 5)

Narratorial: Jesus’ use of ‘figure of speech’ versus Jews’ misunderstanding (v. 6)

- A Jesus’ veracity statement that he is the gate of the sheep (v. 7b)
- B All those came before him are thieves and bandits (v. 8)
- C Whoever enters by Jesus will be saved (v. 9)
- B’ Thieves come only to steal and kill and destroy (v. 10a)
- A’ Jesus came so that the sheep may have life, and have it abundantly (v. 10b)
- A I am the good shepherd: He lays down his life for the sheep (v. 11)
- B The hired hand: does not own, does not care, run away (vv. 12-13)
- A’ I am the good shepherd: He knows his own and his own knows him (v. 14)

A synonymous discourse development (vv. 14-18)

According to Ball (1996: 94; cf. Painter, 1993: 346-9; Duke, 1985: 47), “John 10:1-21 divides into three parts. Verses 1-6 introduce the new theme of sheep, shepherds and associated imagery in the means of parable (*παροιμία*, v. 6).²⁴⁵⁹ Verses 7-18 explain and expand upon the parable

²⁴⁵⁶ Van der Watt (2000: 1; cf. Wead, 1970: 87-92) opines that, “The term *symbolism* is often used for the dynamics in the Gospel of John and often for all forms of figurative language. Some theorists, however, prefer *metaphor* (and not symbol) as overarching descriptor for figurative language. Symbols and metaphors are even regarded to be synonyms, although metaphors are usually regarded as a sub-section of symbolism”.

²⁴⁵⁷ The narrator describes in v. 6: *first*, Jesus’ use of *τὴν παροιμίαν*; and *second*, his interlocutors’ *οὐκ ἔγνω* (cf. Hunter, 1968: 82). Stibbe (1993: 113) states that, “The form of the passage is predominantly discourse. There are minimal intrusions into this direct speech by the narrator”. The intrusions he finds are at vv. 6, 7a, 19, 20, and 24.

²⁴⁵⁸ Quast (1991/1996: 78) says that, “Chapter 10 contains perhaps the only parable found in John. We have the shepherd who protects his sheep from intruders and imposters. By two more ‘I am’ sayings embedded in the parable, Jesus lays exclusive claim to open the way for the salvation of his followers”. Cf. Ball, 1996: 94; 1932: 173-83; Stibbe, 1993: 114; Wead, 1970: 87-92; Keener, 2003: 803-10.

²⁴⁵⁹ Van der Watt (2000: 55) says that, “In some cases the very same scholar would speak of 10:1-5 both as well as a *Parabel* (Spitta); a parable as well as an allegory (Dodd, Morris, Lindars, Brown) or *Bei Gleichnis* (Gnilka)”. Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 113; Keener, 2003: 799-80; Wead, 1970: 87-92; Lindars (1972: 352) it as an ‘allegory’.

Verses 19-21 show the reactions of the audience to Jesus' words".²⁴⁶⁰ Within these three major component sections, as Ball describes, a very peculiar format is structured as follows: *first*, a *chiasm* (vv. 1-5);²⁴⁶¹ *second*, a *narratorial break* (v. 6);²⁴⁶² *third*, a second *chiasm* (vv. 7-10);²⁴⁶³ *fourth*, a third *chiasm* (vv. 11-14);²⁴⁶⁴ and *fifth*, a *synonymous discourse* (vv. 14-18; cf. Talbert, 1992: 164-8; Brant, 2011: 159).²⁴⁶⁵ This peculiar structure flows from an antithetical parallel structure in vv. 1-14 to a synonymous parallel structure in vv. 14-18 (cf. Hengstenberg, 1965/1980: 476-525; see the structural format above).²⁴⁶⁶

The section at vv. 1-6 can be considered as foundational for the rest of the discourse unit. Lindars (1972: 94; cf. Anderson, 2008: 99-100) suggests that the section beginning at v. 7, "takes up features from the parable successively, expanding and developing them—the door (vv. 7-9),²⁴⁶⁷ the thief (v. 10), the shepherd (vv. 11-13), the sheep (vv. 14-16)—and these have further developments in the sacrifice of the shepherd (vv. 17-18)".²⁴⁶⁸ What Lindars says makes much sense when someone analyses the entire framework of the discourse. Table 95 illustrates the contrast between

²⁴⁶⁰ For Moloney (1998: 291), "The story of the man born blind and Jesus' discourse on shepherds continue his words and actions during the feast of Tabernacles".

²⁴⁶¹ The entire first section (vv. 1-5) is uttered in a *chiastic* (ABA') formula where the entry of the shepherd of the sheep by the gate is placed at the center (vv. 2-4) over against the thieves/bandits/strangers (vv. 1 and 5). *First*, vv. 1-5 begins and ends with references about the opponents of Jesus, i.e., thieves/bandits/strangers. *Second*, their action of entering the sheepfold 'not by the gate' but by another way is deciphered. *Third*, their relation to the sheep is notified by saying that 'sheep will not follow them' and 'they (sheep) will run from them because they do not know their voice'. Contrary to the thieves/bandits/strangers' action and relation, the shepherd of the sheep's action (v. 2) and his relation to the sheep (vv. 3-4) are notified. Sloyan (1988: 128) comments that, "There are two contrasts at work in John's first figurative juxtaposition. One is between the shepherd and thieves and robbers (vv. 1-2), the other between the shepherd and a stranger (v. 5)". See Hunter, 1965: 101-3; cf. Lindars, 1972: 355-7; Blomberg, 2001: 158-9; Neyrey, 2007: 177-8; Painter, 1993: 343-51; Bruce, 1983: 223-5; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 168-9; Carson, 1991: 380-3; Wead, 1970: 87-92; Ball, 1996: 94-8; Keener, 2003: 803-10; Robertson, 1932: 173-83.

²⁴⁶² The narratorial break at v. 6 serves to distinguish between Jesus' use of the figure of speech and the misunderstanding of the Jews.

²⁴⁶³ Further contrasts are delineated in vv. 7-10 by way of another *Jesus-thieves-Jesus-thieves-Jesus* (vv. 7b, 8, 9, 10a, 10b) *chiasm*, in which the narrator places the salvific aspect at the center (v. 9).

²⁴⁶⁴ A third *chiasm* is found in vv. 11-14, where the hired hands contrast the role of the good shepherd. While Jesus' 'I am' and 'good shepherd' are emphasised in vv. 11-14, the hearers/readers are alerted about the hirelings at the centre (vv. 12-13). While in vv. 1-14, Jesus' talk emphasises the antithetical character of development in chiastic format (cf. Van der Watt, 2000: 61), in vv. 14-18, a synonymous character of development progresses where the Father-Jesus-Sheep-Other Sheep connection is emphasised as Father-Jesus, Jesus-Sheep, Jesus-Other Sheep, and Sheep-Other Sheep interlocking are dynamically narrated. See Keener, 2003: 814-7; Lindars, 1972: 362; Robertson, 1932: 179-80; Neyrey, 2007: 180-2; Blomberg, 2001: 160.

²⁴⁶⁵ While in the first three chiastic sections (see vv. 1-5, 7-10, 11-14) and in the narrative (v. 6) the discourse develops in an antithetical format (i.e., between the good shepherd and the thieves/bandits/strangers/hirelings), in the last section (vv. 14-18) the discourse develops in a synonymous format (i.e., among Father, Son, sheep, and other sheep).

²⁴⁶⁶ In the third *chiasm* (vv. 11-14) and the final synonymous section (vv. 14-18), v. 14 appears as the common part.

²⁴⁶⁷ Wallace (1996: 100) observes about the function of the 'genitive of destination' (v. 7) in the following words: "The genitive substantive indicates where the head noun is going or the direction it going or direction it is 'moving' in) or the purpose of its existence". He lists John 10:7 (ἡ θύρα τῶν προβάτων) as an example, but since doors don't move off their hinges this is doubtful. The idea is 'the door that opens for the sheep', where the collocation of head noun and gen. noun implies a certain verbal notion.

²⁴⁶⁸ Duke (1985: 86) says that, "... the irony has one further twist: though he will lay down his life, it will not be as they might think; they themselves are destined to do the killing. Jesus' response is predictably silent about the content of their remark, but points deftly to the reason they cannot see the import of their own words: 'You are from below, I am from above'". See also Ball, 1996: 94; Robertson, 1932: 173-83; Keener, 2003: 803-18; Neyrey, 2007: 179.

the good shepherd and the thieves/bandits/strangers, outlined in vv. 1-5 (cf. Neyrey, 2001: Witherington, 1995: 186-90).

Thieves/Bandits/Strangers	Shepherd of the Sheep
Do not enter the sheepfold by the gate (v. 1)	Enters by the gate (v. 2)
Climb in by another way (v. 1)	The gatekeeper opens the gate for him (v. 3a)
The sheep do not know their voice (v. 5b)	The sheep hear his voice (vv. 3a, 4b)
They are strangers (v. 5)	He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out (v. 3b)
The sheep do not follow strangers (v. 5a)	The sheep follow him (v. 4b)
The sheep will run from them (v. 5b)	He goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow (v. 4c)

Table 95: Contrast between 'the Good Shepherd' and 'the Thieves/Bandits/Strangers'

This structural development of the extended discourse section (10:1-18) is closely linked to the seven-slot dramatic dialogue section (9:1-41). What the Johannine Jesus left behind without in the previous section (i.e., 9:1-41) is addressed figuratively here (i.e., 10:1-18). Stibbe (1993: 113) argues that, "... Jesus in chap. 9 represents the epitome of true pastoral commitment. The behavior of the Pharisees/Jews, however, is anti-pastoral ... they show how incapable they are of acting out the role of 'shepherd' by ejecting a socially marginalised person from the synagogue".²⁴⁶⁹ Stibbe's argument here is further strengthened by Köstenberger (2004: 29) in the following lines:

Chapter 10 follows chapter 9 without transition; thus, Jesus' audiences are likely the same. Jesus' healing of the blind man had led to the man's expulsion from the local synagogue, an act viewed by Jesus as an arrogant assertion of usurped authority that called for further comment. For the Pharisees were not blind themselves (9:40-41); they were also 'blind guides' (cf. Matthew 23:16, 24) who led astray those entrusted to their care (cf. Luke 17:1-2; Matthew 23:15). The dark backdrop of Jesus' 'good shepherd discourse' is therefore the blatant irresponsibility of the Jewish religious leaders.

On the basis of the above discussion one can state the following: *first*, the seven-slot dramatic dialogue section (9:1-41) and the monologue section at 10:1-18 are closely linked together in order to deliver a message to the reader; *second*, its larger framework from a dramatic dialogue (9:1-41) to a metaphorical monologue (10:1-18), and again to a community dialogue (10:19-21) is considered as the narrative design; and *third*, the *dramatic dialogue-metaphorical monologue-community dialogue* development of 9:1-10:21 is semantically contributive and narratively artistic (cf. Talbert, 1992: 164-8; Neyrey, 2001: 267-291). Thus the cohesive structural design of the *dramatic dialogue-metaphorical monologue-community dialogue* is the literary artist's narrative (cf. Chatman, 1978: 26, 30-1; Booth, 1961: 149-65).

²⁴⁶⁹ Witherington (1995: 190) opines that, "The overall image here is of Jesus as a powerful and devoted shepherd who can provide for, protect, and even rescue his sheep. It is the image of a universal shepherd whose ambition is to have one flock made up of Jewish and Gentile sheep". Also see Carson, 1991: 380-90; Bock, 2000: 223-9; Morris, 1995: 443-57; Wead, 1970: 87-92; Painter, 1993: 343-58; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 168-72.

²⁴⁷⁰ Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 352-3; Morris, 1995: 444, 446; Wead, 1970: 87-92; Lincoln, 2000: 97.

10.2.9. A Community-Dialogue (10:19-21)

Jesus' *speeches* centered on the themes "light of the world" (φῶς εἰμι τοῦ κόσμου, 9: 5),²⁴⁷¹ "gate for the sheep" (ἡ θύρα τῶν προβάτων, 10: 7) and "good shepherd" (ὁ ποιμὴν ὁ καλός, 10: 11, 14)²⁴⁷² culminate into a division among the Jews (10:19-21; cf. Neyrey, 2001: 267-91; Hengstenberg, 1965/1980: 476-525).²⁴⁷³ The *majority group* (πολλοὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν), first of all, asserts that Jesus is "demon possessed" and he is "raving mad". They then express their prolonged frustration by way of a radical statement followed by a question: "He (Jesus) has a demon and is out of his mind. Why listen to him?" (Δαιμόνιον ἔχει καὶ μαίνεται· τί αὐτοῦ ἀκούετε;, v. 20; cf. Duke, 1985: 75; Smith, 1999: 209).²⁴⁷⁴

John 10:19-21	Overview
v.19: Σχίσμα πάλιν ἐγένετο ἐν τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις διὰ τοὺς λόγους τούτους. v.20: ἔλεγον δὲ πολλοὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν· δαιμόνιον ἔχει καὶ μαίνεται· τί αὐτοῦ ἀκούετε; v.21: ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· ταῦτα τὰ ῥήματα οὐκ ἔστιν δαιμονιζομένου· μὴ δαιμόνιον δύναται τυφλῶν ὀφθαλμοὺς ἀνοῖξαι;	(1) The dialogue in vv. 19-21 is comprised of two utterance units (vv. 20b, 21b); out of the two utterance units, one is of πολλοὶ (v. 20b) and the other is of ἄλλοι (v. 21b); (2) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (v. 19) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 20a, 21a).

Table 96: The dialogue of 10:19-21 within the narratorial framework

A *minority group* (ἄλλοι) oppose the arguments of the first group.²⁴⁷⁵ They begin with the assertion that the words of Jesus are not of one who has a demon and, then, pose a counter-question based on the evidence of Jesus' wonder-working (Ταῦτα τὰ ῥήματα οὐκ ἔστιν δαιμονιζομένου· μὴ δαιμόνιον δύναται τυφλῶν ὀφθαλμοὺς ἀνοῖξαι;, v. 21; cf. Duke, 1985: 47).²⁴⁷⁶ Thus the slot maintains the form of a *majority-minority/question-counter question* formatted *community dialogue*.²⁴⁷⁷ While the majority group attempts to portray Jesus negatively, the minority group asserts that the argument of the majority group is baseless (cf. Smith, 1999:

²⁴⁷¹ The "I am" saying in 9:5 further takes readers attention towards 8:12. Cf. Ball, 1996: 80-3.

²⁴⁷² Painter (1993: 357; cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 820) considers 10:19-21 as a "response" section. Cf. Ball, 1996: 93-101; Van der Watt, 2000: 54-77; Hanson, 1991: 135-49; Hunter, 1968: 81-2.

²⁴⁷³ Bruce (1983: 229; cf. Lindars, 1972: 364; Carson, 1991: 390) says that, "His [Jesus'] words are called *logoi* in verse 19 and *rhēmata* in verse 21, but in using these two terms John is probably indulging his fondness for synonyms". Painter (1993: 357-58) is of the opinion that, "Verses 19-21 are the narrator's summary. Unlike 9:16, which is also a summary statement, 10:19-21 is appended to the preceding section. It is not an integral part of it as is 9:16 in the dialogue of that chapter".

²⁴⁷⁴ Beasley-Murray (1987: 172) states that, "The mention of the division indicates the uncertainty and tension in the situation, and so prepares for the following section, where the uncertainty and tension reach explosion point (vv. 24-39)". Their question "Why listen to him?" (τί αὐτοῦ ἀκούετε;) clearly marks their stubborn attitude toward Jesus. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 229; Morris, 1995: 457; Painter, 1993: 357-8; Keener, 2003: 820.

²⁴⁷⁵ Brant (2011: 159) states that, "The dialogue ends where the controversy over the healing of the blind man began with the question of whether it is possible for a sinner to do a godly work (10:21)".

²⁴⁷⁶ Brant (2004: 138) says that, "... the effect of his [i.e., Jesus'] words is measured by their response, in which many of them insist that he has a demon (10:19-21)". See Lindars, 1972: 365; Keener, 2003: 820; Robertson, 1932: 183; Hengstenberg, 1965/1980: 476-525.

²⁴⁷⁷ While Neyrey (2007: 185) considers it as a *challenge and riposte* slot, Stibbe (1993: 114) considers it as responses to the παρουσία: (1) negative; and (2) positive. Cf. Painter, 1993: 357-8; Robertson, 1932: 183; Morris, 1995: 457-8; Keener, 2003: 820; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 172.

209).²⁴⁷⁸ While the minority group's utterance at 10:21 takes the reader's attention backward to the dramatic dialogue (9:1-41), the dramatic dialogue in chap. 9 proleptically functions within the larger episode.

Utterance	Form	Content
Many of the Jews	False accusation, call to avoid Jesus, question	Jesus has a demon and is out of his mind. What to him?
Others	Countering the accusation, counter/rhetorical question	These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?

Table 97: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 10:19-21

At the pragmatic level of the slot, the following things are observable (cf. Tan, 1993: 51). The reader can notice the way 9:1-41, 10:1-18, and 10:19-21 are knit together on the following grounds: *first*, the dramatic dialogue in chap. 9 can exist independently from the subsequent monologue section as it deals exclusively with the subject matter of "Jesus, the light of the world" and in that sense the pericope at 10:1-21 can be counted as a supplementation to the dramatic dialogue;²⁴⁷⁹ *second*, the *inclusion* formed between 9:1 and 10:21²⁴⁸⁰ can be counted as an indication of the uniformity of the larger unit at 9:1-10:21; and *third*, in the monologue section Jesus' speech expects the response of his interlocutors and, hence, the reader can infer that the dialogic nature of 10:1-18 is disturbed due to the misunderstanding and silence of the Jews (6).²⁴⁸¹ The narrator's divergent interests and literary skills are marked by way of incorporating dramatic dialogue, a metaphoric monologue, and a conflict-oriented community dialogue within the episode.²⁴⁸² John employs various literary categories side by side in order to advance his arguments and the range of devices helps to hold the keen attention of the reader (cf. Eco, 1984: 40; Moore, 1989: 71-107). The narrator of the episode persuades the reader to take sides with the minority group and generates suspense in her/him learning about the larger sense of the story.

10.3.Meso-Analysis

The micro-analysis of 9:1-10:21 enables us to see the following tenets of the dialogue (cf. Brant, 2011: 151-62; Duke, 1985: 117-26). The first slot (9:1-7) has a *sign-* and *work-centered* progression. On the one hand it shows features of a *question-and-answer* interaction and

²⁴⁷⁸ Their assertion here connects the entire section of 10:1-21 with 9:1-41.

²⁴⁷⁹ Brant (2011: 159) says that, "The chapter break makes it look like this is the end of the episode, but 9:4 is the beginning of a debate in which the *paroimia* of the sheepfold serves as an analogy, a deductive form of argument in which Jesus implies that the Pharisees are false leaders and demonstrate their blindness through incomprehension". Cf. Robertson, 1932: 160-83; Carson, 1991: 359-90; Dodd, 1960: 354-5; Stibbe, 1993: 117-18.

²⁴⁸⁰ In both cases a reference is made about the blind man: in 9:1, narrator reports that "he [Jesus] saw a man born blind"; and in 10:21, the minority group raises a question to the majority group, "Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

²⁴⁸¹ Jesus also uses a figure of speech in order to establish the higher christological aspects. The narrator reports that Jesus' speech at 10:6 and the indication about the misunderstanding of the Jews mark a break for Jesus' discourse and the failure of the Jews in responding to him. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 172; Keener, 2003: 820; Morris, 1995: 457-8; Brant, 2011: 229; Painter, 1993: 357-8.

²⁴⁸² Community dialogues and resultant divisions are important dramatic elements in John's Gospel (see 10:1-16).

it keeps the form of a *challenge-and-riposte* progression (cf. Gench, 2007: 64-6).²⁴⁸³ Within the overall framework of the slot, the dialogue leads to a sign performance of Jesus. In the second slot (9:8-12) the dialogue progresses from the sphere of a *group* or *community* to the level of a *group-and-individual*. Other aspects like *dual-layered* development, *question-and-answer* format, and *forensic* aspects are also features of the dialogue (cf. Press, 2007: 66).²⁴⁸⁴ The third slot (9:13-17) maintains elements of a *false assertion and a subsequent question of perplexity* and a *question-and-answer* dialogue. In this *tri-tier* slot, a reader can notice the way a dialogue functions within another dialogue.²⁴⁸⁵ In the fourth slot (9:18-23), the narrator uses elements of a *question-and-answer* dialogue and that contains sequence of a *forensic question*, a *knowing-and-unknowing contrast* and a *response of escape*.²⁴⁸⁶ In slot five (9:24-34), a *juridical* and *antithetical* progression of dialogue is in the view (cf. Smith, 1999: 196-8).²⁴⁸⁷ The sixth slot (9:35-38) has a *belief-invitation*, *belief-willingness*, *revelation*, *belief-confession*, and *belief-actualization* sequence with tenets of a *flashback-centered* and *revelatory* dialogue (cf. Talbert, 1992: 154-6).²⁴⁸⁸ And the seventh slot (9:39-41) shows *antithetical* and *ironical* natures of the characters through their very utterances (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 255-6; see Table 98).²⁴⁸⁹

The dialogue turned monologue section in 10:1-18 comprises of literary elements like an *enigmatic speech in chiastic format*, a *figure of speech* and its explanation, and an *antithetical-to-synonymous discourse progression* (cf. Press, 2007: 66; Neyrey, 2009: 282-312).²⁴⁹⁰ In 10:19-21 the narrator uses features of a *majority-minority bifurcation strategy* in order to develop a *question-and-counter question* formatted community dialogue (see Table 98).²⁴⁹¹ Although *question-and-answer* format is one of the major tenets of the overall dialogue, at times it also shows several other

²⁴⁸³ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 239) considers vv. 1-7 as the introductory scene within the coherent pattern of the episode. For him, the section deals with 'the healing of the blind man with an indication of its status as a sign'. See Lindars, 1972: 341-4; Beirne, 2003: 110-5; Blomberg, 2001: 150-2; Stibbe, 1993: 103-12.

²⁴⁸⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 239) considers vv. 8-34 as the middle section. For him, it is a section in which 'discussions and interrogations which make the sign unchallengeable and unbelief inexcusable'. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 163-4; Neyrey, 2007: 168-70; Resseguie, 2001: 139-44; Painter, 1993: 305-16; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 156.

²⁴⁸⁵ Cf. Bruce, 1983: 211-6; Stibbe, 1993: 103-12; Blomberg, 2001: 153; Bennema, 2009: 138-41.

²⁴⁸⁶ For details about 'literary form' in the Fourth Gospel, refer to Muilenberg, 1993: 65-76. Also see Robertson, 1932: 165-6; Beirne, 2003: 110-5; Resseguie, 2001: 139-44; Maniparampil, 2004: 279-86; Painter, 1993: 305-16.

²⁴⁸⁷ Gench (2007: 71) sees the story comes to a "full circle" in v. 34. She says that, "The story thus comes full circle, as the formerly blind man, dubbed a sinner, finds himself on the outside once again". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 216-9; Blomberg, 2001: 154-5; Bennema, 2009: 138-41; Beirne, 2003: 110-5.

²⁴⁸⁸ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 239) considers vv. 35-41 as the theological conclusion of the episode. Cf. Lindars, 1972: 349-52; Stibbe, 1993: 103-12; Bennema, 2009: 138-41; Resseguie, 2001: 139-44; Maniparampil, 2004: 279-86; Morris, 1995: 439-40; Neyrey, 2007: 175-6.

²⁴⁸⁹ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 205) observes that, "The literary unity of John 9 is highlighted by the dramatic development of the episode in seven scenes (9:1-7, 8-12, 13-17, 18-23, 24-34, 35-38, 39-41)". He does not consider John 10:1-21 as continuation/part of the seven-scene dialogue. See Carson, 1991: 377-9; Painter, 1993: 316-8; Dodd, 1963: 327-8; Resseguie, 2001: 139-44; Schneiders, 1999: 149-70; Keener, 2003: 795-6; Neyrey, 2007: 174-6.

²⁴⁹⁰ Gench (2007: 72) says that, "... kicked out the door of the synagogue by their religious leaders, sorry shepherds, they too were found by one who said 'I am the door' (10:7), 'I am the good shepherd' (10:14), and 'anyone who comes to me I will never drive away' (6:37)". Cf. Hanson, 1991: 135-49; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 278-302; Barrett, 1978: 367-77; Beirne, 2003: 110-5; Wead, 1970: 87-92; Van der Watt, 2000: 54-89.

²⁴⁹¹ Cf. Lindars, 1972: 352-65; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 366-7; Stibbe, 1993: 103-12; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 303-4; Kanagaraj, 2005: 323-41; Morris, 1995: 457-8; Blomberg, 2001: 160-1.

features as indicated above (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24).²⁴⁹² The episode as a whole maintains a U-shaped plot structure (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53; Resseguie, 2005: 155-6, 213-4). The sequence of events within the episode can be outlined as follows: performance of a miracle (cf. Nicol, 1972: 35, 59-60, 112), trial of the man (is also the trial of Jesus), and the anagnorisis of the story, i.e., the final confrontation of Jesus with the Pharisees (9:39-41; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 225-9; Greimas and Courtés, 1979/1982: 256-7).²⁴⁹³ The dénouement of the story leads to a division among the Jews and that further leads to a paramount declaration of the minority group (10:21 (cf. Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 45; Resseguie, 2005: 235-9).²⁴⁹⁴ Thus the episode contains all the features of a U-shaped plot. While Jesus' sign performance (9:1-7) and its declaration of the minority group (10:21) are at the heightened positions, the trial of the man (and of Jesus) is at the lowered position. This sequence helps the story to maintain a beginning-middle-ending order.

The *dramatis personae* of the episode are Jesus and his disciples, the blind man turned the healed man, the neighbours and others who had seen the man as a beggar, the Pharisees/Jews, the parents of the healed man, and an unspecified group in 9:16b and 10:21 (cf. Tolmie, 1999: 39-59; Powell, 1990: 51-68). The narrator views Jesus: *first* as one who hid himself and went away from the temple (8:59); *second* as one who performs the 'work' of God; *third* as one who *shows* that he is the light of the world';²⁴⁹⁵ *fourth* as one who is in conflict with the 'unbelieving' and worshipping the Pharisees; and *fifth* as 'the gate for the sheep' and 'the good shepherd' (cf. Gench, 2007: 10; Stibbe, 2004: 5-31).²⁴⁹⁶ He views the blind man turned the healed as developing from 'blind' to 'sight' and from 'unbelieving' to 'believing', one who testifies for/defends the healer, one who was 'reviled' and 'driven out' due to his testimony, and one who accepts the healer as a Messiah and the Son of Man (cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 159-74; Smith, 1999: 190-204).²⁴⁹⁷ The Pharisees are viewed as 'unbelieving' and antagonistic characters, who misunderstand the words of Jesus.

²⁴⁹² It also shows features of a *flashback*, *revelatory*, *forensic*, *controversial*, *investigatory*, and *absent-lit* dialogue.

²⁴⁹³ A reversal of the entire episode occurs in 9:39-41. Baldick (1990: 8-9) says that, "The anagnorisis combined with the play's peripeteia or reversal of fortunes, in comedy as in tragedy".

²⁴⁹⁴ Brant (2011: 159) says that, "The blind man's part in the narrative is now over, and John returns the story to Jesus. Jesus resumes the speech he left off in 9:4-5 (cf. 9:39) . . . The principal action—Jesus' rebuttal of the Pharisees' allegations and his counteraccusations—begins once more when the narrator brings into view some Pharisees who overhear the conversation".

²⁴⁹⁵ Carson (1991: 359) says that, "Thematically, this chapter is tied to the Feast of Tabernacles (chap. 8) and has an explicit reference to Jesus as the light of the world (9:5; cf. 8:12). This chapter portrays what happens when the light shines: some are made to see, like this man born blind, while others, who think they see, turn away, blinded, by the light (9:39-41). At the same time, this chapter prepares the way for chap. 10, where a sharp contrast is drawn between the good shepherd, who gives his life for his sheep, and other religious leaders, like those in chap. 9, who are nothing but thieves and hirelings". Stibbe (1993: 110) says that, "John 9 provides us with some fine examples of irony. Throughout the story, the continuing irony is that the blind man, professing his ignorance, is really the character who knows, while the Pharisees/Jews, parading their knowledge, are in reality ignorant".

²⁴⁹⁶ For details about character traits, refer to Powell, 1990: 54-5; Chatman, 1978: 121. Cf. Ball, 1990: 60; Hanson, 1991: 135-49; Van der Watt, 2000: 54-89; Wead, 1970: 87-92; Morris, 1995: 443-56; Blomberg, 1990: 476-525.

²⁴⁹⁷ For knowing about the narrative understanding of characters, see Powell, 1990: 51-7. Also see Carson, 1991: 79; Lindars, 1972: 337-52; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 154-60; Kanagaraj, 2005: 302-20.

revile and drive out the 'believing' (cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 434-50; Resseguie, 2001: 34-5). And the parents are viewed by the narrator as characters who maintain their social and religious 'status quo', and those who are ready to accept the 'healing' aspect but unwilling to proclaim that in public due to the fear of the 'unbelieving' Jews (cf. Powell, 1990: 51-68).²⁴⁹⁸ The main themes of the dialogue turned monologue function dynamically and also adequately within the dialogic framework of the episode.²⁴⁹⁹

The dialogues in the episode unravel the symbolic and spiritual truths, reveal the unfathomable depths of the personality of Jesus, and open up for yet another time the 'folly' of the Jewish leaders. The various excitements, emotions, actions, and exaggerations of the narrative portray the *melodramatic* nature of the episode (cf. Powell, 1990: 56-8; Booth, 1961: 149-65).²⁵⁰⁰ One of the conspicuous factors of the dialogue is the progress in the healed man's apprehension about the person of Christ: *first*, "The man called Jesus" (ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ λεγόμενος Ἰησοῦς, v. 11); *second*, "He is a prophet" (Προφήτης ἐστίν, v. 17); *third*, he talks about fearing God and being obedient to his will (τις θεοσεβῆς ἦ καὶ τὸ θέλημα αὐτοῦ ποιῇ τούτου ἀκούει, vv. 30-33); *fourth*, he calls him "Lord" and tells him "I believe" (Πιστεύω, κύριε, v. 38); and *fifth*, he "worshipped him" (προσεκύνησεν αὐτῷ, v. 38; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 140; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 254-8).²⁵⁰¹ The narrator promotes this development within the episode. Jesus' activity of spit, making mud with the saliva, spreading it on the blind man's eyes, the blind man's going and washing, the activity of driving the healed man out by the Jews, and the interlocutors' entry and exit all contribute to the advancement of the dialogue at diverse levels (cf. Witherington, 1995: 180-95).²⁵⁰² The dialogues in John reveal the conflict at the socio-religious level between the 'believing' community and the 'unbelieving' Jewish leaders.²⁵⁰³ The man's witness is broadcasted both at the local (his own

²⁴⁹⁸ Use of *antilanguage* against the unbelieving character of the Jews, both in the dialogue and in the monologue, is a feature of the episode.

²⁴⁹⁹ The main themes of the dialogue are: sin, revelation of God's works, day and night, I am, light of the world, blindness and sight, breaking of the Sabbath, sign, believing, knowing-unknown conflict, confessing Jesus, Messiah, glory, discipleship to Moses versus discipleship to Jesus, driving out of the synagogue, Son of Man, Lord, worship, judgment, physical sight versus spiritual sight, gate of the sheep, life in abundance, good shepherd and sheep, one flock and one shepherd, laying down of Jesus' life, and division due to Jesus' words.

²⁵⁰⁰ It also has tension-building narrative technique, compositional features, thematic development, ideological controversy, cryptic, conjectured, and ambiguous sayings, realistic touch, unfolding the truth aspects, proximity to time elements, and rhetorical ingredients in order to capture the mind of the reader. The incorporation of various ingredients into the story reveals its unusual appeal before the reading community (cf. Porter and Stamps, 1999).

²⁵⁰¹ It is true when John Painter says (JSNT 28: 31-2), "The dialogue (in 9:8-38) brings out the way the man who had been blind grows in his perception of Jesus: the man called Jesus (9:11); a prophet (9:17); from God (9:33); until, in the conclusion, he *worships* Jesus as *Son of Man*". Keener (2003: 775-6) says that, "The blind man himself becomes a paradigm of growing discipleship; when he confesses Jesus openly, he moves from recognising him as a 'man' (9:1) to a 'prophet' (9:17) and a man from God (9:33), and with Jesus' revelation recognises him as 'Son of Man' and 'Lord' (9:35-37)".

²⁵⁰² Painter (JSNT 28: 34) opines, "The use of spittle in John 9:6 links the story with Mark 8:23, but differences in the details of the stories preclude the identification of the Markan account as the source of John's use of this motif".

²⁵⁰³ The expressions like ἀποσυνάγωγος γένηται (9:22), ἀποσυνάγωγοι γένωνται (12:42), and ἀποσυνάγωγους ποιήσουσιν (16:2) point toward an expulsion of the "believing" from the Synagogue membership. On the basis of John 1:17 and 9:28, Haacker (1972: 34-5; cf. Culpepper, 1975: 264-5) finds that Jesus was regarded as a founder (*Stifter*)

neighbourhood) and at the central/judicial (at the temple) levels.²⁵⁰⁴ His submission before marks the climax of the dramatic dialogue.²⁵⁰⁵ The inclusion of the metaphorical monologue 18; cf. Press, 2007: 66) and the final community dialogue (10:19-21) adds more var flavour to the dramatic episode (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-91).

In 9:1-10:21, the dialogue and the monologue function sequentially within the na framework in order to communicate the message to the reader.²⁵⁰⁶ Through the medium dialogue, the narrator creates a situation of “conflict and characterisation” (cf. Tolmie, 1959; Resseguie, 2005: 230-3). He portrays the spiritual development of the healed man ‘inside out’ of the Jewish authorities, and reveals Jesus’ identity as the Son of Man.²⁵⁰⁷ In this episode, the narrator uses a kind of *spiral technique* in order to interconnect the entire dialogue and the subsequent monologue and the community dialogue as a unified whole. The help of the link-word βλέπω and its cognates (see the *spiral technique* below).²⁵⁰⁸ Among the *spiral sayings*, except 9:7b that is by the narrator, most of them are uttered by the characters in their dialogues.²⁵⁰⁹

9:7b	ἀπῆλθεν οὖν καὶ ἐνίψατο καὶ ἦλθεν βλέπων
9:11	ἀπελθὼν οὖν καὶ νιψάμενος ἀνέβλεψα
9:15b	καὶ ἐνιψάμην καὶ βλέπω
9:20b-21a	ὅτι τυφλὸς ἐγεννήθη· πῶς δὲ νῦν βλέπει οὐκ οἶδαμεν
9:25b	ἐν οἷδα ὅτι τυφλὸς ὢν ἄρτι βλέπω
9:30b	ὅτι ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε πόθεν ἐστίν, καὶ ἡνοιξέν μου τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς
9:39b	ἵνα οἱ μὴ βλέποντες βλέπωσιν καὶ οἱ βλέποντες τυφλοὶ γένωνται

opposed to Moses. Culpepper (1975: 264) says that, “The success of this thesis indicates that the community was conversant with the concept of “founder” common in the ancient schools”. Painter (1993: 3) further that, “The development of the dialogue section reflects the situation of conflict with the synagogue. It is addressed to those who remained sympathetic within the synagogue, the secret believers”. The dialogue with the Synagogue communities (i.e., under the authority of the ‘unbelieving’ Jews) and the ‘excommunicated’/ ‘outcast’ community can be considered a possibility. Pryor (1992: 40) observes that, “. . . in the dialogues which precede the narrative we are presented with the stages of growth to full faith and confession, with various levels of unbelief, with the cost of Christian discipleship”. Painter (JSNT 28: 38) opines that, “In the New Testament the term ‘excommunication’ occurs only in John. The formula in 9:22, ‘to confess Christ’, is formal and belongs to the time of the ministry of Jesus, but to a later stage of church development”.

²⁵⁰⁴ Cf. Ball, 1996: 80-93; Bruce, 1983: 210-9; Painter, 1993: 305-16; Morris, 1995: 428-38.

²⁵⁰⁵ The man’s belief and worship in the sixth scene is the apogee of the narrative, and the seventh slot tells the moral of the entire incident.

²⁵⁰⁶ William Packard defined dialogue as “the rapid back and forth exchange that takes place between characters”. He said that “good dramatic dialogue always advances the major actions of the plot”. www.bloomington.in.us/~dory/creative

²⁵⁰⁷ Painter (1993: 312) says that, “Unlike the signs of John 5 and John 6, the sign of John 9 is not followed by a lengthy discourse but by a series of dialogues which constitute a controversy From 9:13-34 there are only dialogues between the man and the Pharisees (Jews) and other witnesses”. Morris (1995: 422) says that, “The sign of John 9, a function of God’s own Messiah that Jesus fulfills when he gives sight to the blind. This chapter has great significance in John’s plan for showing Jesus to be the Messiah”.

²⁵⁰⁸ In the dialogues, John uses a kind of ‘spiral technique’ that is his habit of recapitulating the subject of the previous statement of a discourse at each section (cf. Smalley, 1978: 198).

²⁵⁰⁹ 9:7b is presented as a narratorial note.

- 9:41 Εἰ τυφλοὶ ἦτε, οὐκ ἂν εἶχετε ἁμαρτίαν· νῦν δὲ λέγετε ὅτι Βλέπομεν, ἡ ἁμαρτία ὑμῶν μένει
 10:21 Ταῦτα τὰ ῥήματα οὐκ ἔστιν δαιμονιζομένου· μὴ δαιμόνιον δύναται τυφλῶν ὀφθαλμοὺς ἀνοίξαι;

The seven-scene dialogue at 9:1-42 is an exceptionally polished episode, a strange combination of a creepy drama and a thriller that gradually builds to a chimerical climax.²⁵¹⁰ Brown (1966: 376; cf. Booth, 1961: 151-3) rightly points out that, “The internal construction of the story shows consummate artistry; no other story in the gospel is so closely knit. We have here Johannine dramatic skill at its best”.²⁵¹¹ The following aspects help us to understand how the activities and dialogues go hand in hand within the episode:

- 8:59 ἦραν οὖν λίθους ἵνα βάλωσιν ἐπ’ αὐτόν
 8:59 Ἰησοῦς δὲ ἐκρύβη καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τοῦ ἱεροῦ
 9:1 Καὶ παρὰ γων εἶδεν ἄνθρωπον τυφλὸν ἐκ γενετῆς
 9:6 ἔπτυσεν χαμαὶ καὶ ἐποίησεν πηλὸν ἐκ τοῦ πτύσματος καὶ ἐπέχρισεν αὐτοῦ τὸν πηλὸν ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς
 9:7b ἀπῆλθεν οὖν καὶ ἐνίψατο καὶ ἦλθεν βλέπων
 9:13 Ἔγουντι αὐτὸν πρὸς τοὺς Φαρισαίους τὸν ποτε τυφλόν
 9:16 καὶ σχίσμα ἦν ἐν αὐτοῖς
 9:18 ἐφώνησαν τοὺς γονεῖς αὐτοῦ τοῦ ἀναβλέψαντος
 9:22 ἦδη γὰρ συνετέθειντο οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἵνα ἂν τις αὐτὸν ὁμολογήσῃ Χριστόν, ἀποσυνάγωγος γένηται
 9:24 Ἐφώνησαν οὖν τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἐκ δευτέρου ὃς ἦν τυφλὸς
 9:28 καὶ ἐλοιδόρησαν αὐτόν
 9:34 καὶ ἐξέβαλον αὐτόν ἔξω
 9:38 καὶ προσεκύνησεν αὐτῷ
 10:19 Σχίσμα πάλιν ἐγένετο ἐν τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις

The master-mind of the narrator is very clear from his use of two *inclusions* at the extended level: *first* between 9:1-5 and 9:40-41 where the dialogue proper begins with a question asked by the disciples followed by Jesus’ answer and it ends by another question by the Pharisees succeeded by an answer;²⁵¹² and *second* between 9:1 and 10:21, in both cases a mention about the blind man is at the focus (cf. Windisch, 1993: 25-64). The sequence of Jesus’ answer to the two questions (9:1-5, 40-41) gives the reader a clue about the intension of the story that is inserted parenthetically.²⁵¹³

²⁵¹⁰ Witherington (1995: 180) says that, “. . . the drama shifting rapidly from one scene to the next”. Cf. Ball, 1996: 80-93; Robertson, 1932: 160-72; Barrett, 1978: 353-66; Dodd, 1963: 327-8; Morris, 1995: 422-42.

²⁵¹¹ Pryor (1992: 40) comments that, “The discourse relating to the healing of the blind man has been aptly described as ‘one of John’s most brilliant compositions’”. Through various artistic flavours and colours, and spiral techniques the author of the Gospel brilliantly communicates the conflict of the Johannine drama.

²⁵¹² Mlakuzhyil (1987: 205) is of the opinion that, “It is noteworthy that the episode both begins and ends with a question and an answer about ‘blindness’ and ‘sin’”. Cf. Ball, 1996: 80-93; Lindars, 1972: 337-52; Bruce, 1983: 208-21; Carson, 1991: 359-79.

²⁵¹³ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 173) rightly point out that, “Throughout the Johannine narrative, Jesus as the incarnate one engages individuals and groups in dialogue, yet they seem to comprehend, at least at first, only the surface meaning of his words”. Wendland (1992: 101) says that, “Good narrators try to develop tension or suspense when telling their tale, especially when the account happens to be fictitious. They will carefully construct the events so that they build to a climax, after which the story is quickly concluded”.

The dialogue's unexpected turn to a monologue at 10:1-18 and its discussion about the identity of Jesus as the "door of the sheep" and the "good shepherd" call the attention of the reader (Gench, 2007: 72-3).²⁵¹⁴ But the larger episode (9:1-10:21) is concluded by a community (10:19-21) and remains as an open-ended one.

The rhetorical role of the narrator as a reporter of both the events and the talk-units is revealed within the episode (cf. Eco, 1979: 3-40; Booth, 1961: 149-65).²⁵¹⁵ The episode as a whole maintains all the features of a *dialogue turned monologue* within the *narratorial* chemistry (cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 159-84). Through the dialogues the narrator, on the one hand, reveals "hollow" claims and misunderstanding/adamant/static nature of the Jews,²⁵¹⁶ and, on the other hand, reveals Jesus' role as the light of the world, the gate for the sheep, and the good shepherd (Wendland (1992: 101; cf. Parsenios, 2010: 10-2) opines that, in a dramatic story "the narrator emphasises, to a greater or lesser degree, a certain conflict which both motivates the event or she is telling or writing and directs them to some sort of resolution".²⁵¹⁸ A conflict-ridden progression is at the heart of the narration at 9:1-10:21.²⁵¹⁹ The arrangement of the narrative at 10:21 has a remarkable outline as given below:

<i>Setting:</i>	Out of the temple, around a synagogue context, courtroom, street (cf. <i>Gerousia</i>); on the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles or soon after, time between the Feast of Tabernacles and the Feast of Dedication
<i>Trigger:</i>	The healing of the blind man on a Sabbath day; the continuing unbelief of the Pharisees/Jews
<i>Conflict:</i>	The identity of the blind man (9:8-9) and of Jesus (vv. 16, 24b, 28-29; 18)
<i>Comment:</i>	Jesus' sayings, "I am the light of the world" (v. 5), "I am the gate for the sheep" (10:7), and "I am the good shepherd" (10:11, 14); and the blind man's testimony about Jesus (9:11, 15b, 25, 27, 30-33)
<i>Confrontation:</i>	The healed man as a disciple of Jesus versus Jews as disciples of the law (v.28); Jesus' self-revelation over against Jewish religiosity
<i>Climax:</i>	Jesus reveals himself as the Son of Man, the light of the world, the gate for the sheep, and the good shepherd; the healed man as a believing-type of a disciple

²⁵¹⁴ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 173) say further that, "As the dialogue proceeds, sometimes changing to monologue, the alternative and more profound significance of Jesus' words is disclosed. John's hearers and readers are to grasp this divinely revealed meaning".

²⁵¹⁵ The episode is structured simply as a narrative started by a question of the disciples leading to the healing of the blind man to a larger dialogue.

²⁵¹⁶ See the way Martyn (1968: 24-36) argues in his book. Also see Maniparampil, 2004: 279-91; Painter, 1999: 139-44; Schneiders, 1999: 149-70.

²⁵¹⁷ Cf. Martyn, 1968: 24-36; Schneiders, 1999: 149-70; Witherington, 1995: 179-85; Schnackenburg, 1995: 58; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 205-8; Maniparampil, 2004: 279-91; Von Wahlde, 2010: 423-50; Gench, 2007: 64-82.

²⁵¹⁸ Wendland (1992: 101) says further that, "This general progression from conflict to resolution in different types of crisis situations, whether major or minor, from the perspective of the participants involved in the story-teller, e.g., task/test-success, lack-satisfaction, goal-attainment, battle-victory, and so forth".

²⁵¹⁹ Jewish juridical-type questioning versus Jesus' and his followers' diplomatic-way of answering is again evident together for conflict-building. Especially, John chap. 9 is a typical narrative with dramatic movements, developments, and flashback narratives. And at the same time, the active voice utterance units in the episode lead to the enactment-oriented narrative. Cf. Painter, 1986: 31-61; Gench, 2007: 64-82; Painter, 2001: 139-44; Witherington, 1995: 179-85; Martyn, 1968: 24-36; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 205-8.

Resolution:

Jesus as his Lord and worships him, the arrogant and unbelieving nature of the Jews is exposed, and there arises a division among them

Jesus' statements to the Pharisees: *first*, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind"; *second*, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see', your sin remains" (vv. 39, 41); and *third*, "I am the light of the world" (9:5), "I am the door of the sheep" and "I am the good shepherd" (10:1-18)

This outline of the narrative is masterminded by way of dialogues and a monologue for extensive efficacy (cf. Michaels, 1984/1989: 159-84; Neyrey, 2009: 282-312).²⁵²⁰ The dramatic dialogue in chap. 9 is presented almost similar to a flashback narrative as the events head to the final meeting point of Jesus and the healed man (cf. Bowles, 2010: 7-30; Genette, 1980: 33, 173, 232). In the first slot (9:1-7) the blind man is totally silent but is obedient to the action and commandment of Jesus.²⁵²¹ The succeeding four slots (9:8-34) reveal his identity as one who was a 'witness' of Jesus and therefore an excommunicated one (see Table 98). This further leads to the enigmatic utterances and the open-conflict of Jesus with the Pharisees/Jews. The episode as a whole functions as an ironic drama (cf. Duke, 1985: 117-26; Brant, 2004: 38, 123, 138, 228) and that persuades the reader to take side with Jesus who is the light of the world, the door of the sheep, and the good shepherd (cf. Moore, 1989: 71-130).

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
Slot # 1 9:1-7	Content: Jesus is the light of the world // Form: Sign-oriented/work-centered, question-and-answer/challenge-and-riposte sequential, and a dialogue leads to an action // Function: It functions as a prologue to the entire episode	The narrator employs the sign-oriented/work-centered and question-and-answer/challenge-and-riposte format in order to communicate the message that Jesus is the 'light of the world'
Slot # 2 9:8-12	Content: The identities of both the healer and the healed man // Form: Dual-layered, group dialogue, dialogue between a group and an individual, question-and-answer type, forensic // Function: The reader is made aware of the conflicting worldviews and invites his attention toward the effective rhetorical delivery of the slot	The group dialogue followed by the dialogue between the Jews and the healed man is an attempt to pose questions about the identities of Jesus and the healed man
Slot # 3 9:13-17	Content: The identity of the Sabbath breaker // Form: Tri-tier, implicit, question-and-answer, false assertion to a question of perplexity, dialogue within a dialogue, forensic // Function: It functions both analeptically and proleptically, develops as an epistemological and theological conflict, progresses from a non-judicial (less-judicial) one in the second slot to a judicial one in the third slot, and invites the reader toward the succeeding slots	The forensic question-and-answer dialogue is an attempt of exploration about the identity of the Sabbath breaker

²⁵²⁰ For details about the narrator-and-narratee interactions, see Tolmie, 1999: 13-25. See Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 331-51; Witherington, 1995: 179-85; Schneiders, 1999: 149-70; Von Wahlde, 2010: 423-50; Martyn, 1968: 24-36.

²⁵²¹ Witherington (1995: 183) says that, "As in the similar story in John 5, nothing is said in the miracle story itself about the man in question's having faith in Jesus, or of faith being a prerequisite for such a miracle". Cf. Resseguie, 2001: 139-44; Gench, 2007: 64-82; Martyn, 1968: 24-36; Painter, 1986: 31-61; Von Wahlde, 2010: 423-50; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 205-8; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 238-58.

Slot # 4 9:18-23	Content: The continued unbelief of the Jews and the escape of the healed man's parents // Form: <i>Question-and-answer type, forensic question of the Jews and the knowing-unknowing-escape response of the parents</i> // Function: It functions as a sharp instrument in order to reveal the internal views of the characters, it reveals the 'mean mentality' of the Jews and the escapist attitude of the parents, and it increases the rhetoric-dialogic interaction between the narrator and the reader	The <i>forensic question answer dialogue</i> reveals continued unbelief of Jews and the attempt at escapism of the parents
Slot # 5 9:24-34	Content: Jewish antagonistic attitude toward Jesus versus the healed man's development of faith in Jesus // Form: <i>Juridical and antithetical, and in absentia trial of Jesus</i> // Function: The majority-minority or powerful-powerless bifurcation between formative Judaism and the emerging Christian group is conspicuously brought to the notice of the reader. The dialogue functions as a rhetorically intertwined critique of the prevailing bias toward the minorities and the powerless	The <i>juridical/antithetical</i> dialogue discusses, on one hand, about the Jewish antagonistic attitude toward Jesus, and on the other, about the healed man's development of faith in Jesus
Slot # 6 9:35-38	Content: The disclosure (revelation) of the identity of the Son of Man and the belief of the healed man in him // Form: <i>Belief invitation, belief willingness, revelation, belief confession, and belief actualization sequential, Jesus' revelation, the man's belief, and the resultant action of worship, and flashback type</i> // Function: It functions as a dialogue of the 'ousted ones', the narrator makes it clear that it is not only 'seeing' but also 'speaking' of the characters is part of his narratorial dynamism	The <i>flashback type dialogue</i> reveals the identity of the Son of Man and the belief of the healed man in him
Slot # 7 9:39-41	Content: The sin-and-judgment theme: the judgment that Jesus brings into this world, i.e., those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind // Form: <i>Antithetical, ironic, juridical, dualistic, double entendre-misunderstanding-clarification sequential</i> // Function: Epilogue to the dramatic dialogue, a link-slot between the seven-scene dramatic dialogue and the succeeding <i>παροιμία</i> of the 'Good Shepherd' and the robbers. The reader is invited to follow Jesus who is the light of the world	The <i>antithetical, ironic, juridical, and dualistic double entendre, misunderstanding, clarification sequential dialogue</i> introduces the theme of judgment that Jesus brings to the world
Monologue 10:1-18	The monologue works as a sequential slot to the seven-slot dramatic dialogue. It develops from an <i>antithetical discourse</i> (vv. 1-14) to a <i>synonymous discourse</i> (vv. 14-18)	'Jesus as the good shepherd' unlike his Jewish counterparts (i.e., the Pharisees who sent one of them out of the synagogue) is clearly distinguished through this <i>anti-parallel and-synonymous monologue</i> section
Community Dialogue 10:19-21	Content: Division concerning the identity of Jesus, whether he is possessed by a demon or not // Form: <i>Majority-minority/question-counter question formatted community dialogue</i> // Function: The narrator of the episode persuades the reader to take side with the minority group and he generates in her/him suspense for knowing about the larger sense of the extended Johannine story	The <i>majority-minority/question-counter question formatted community dialogue</i> discusses concerning the division among the Pharisees and the Sadducees about the identity of Jesus

Table 98: The summary of the dialogue of the tenth episode

Episode Eleven

A Forensic Dialogue (10:22-42)

11.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

The introductory formula of the episode, i.e., Ἐγένετο τότε,²⁵²² functions in two different ways: *first*, as a connecting link to the previous episode;²⁵²³ and *second*, as a narratorial technique in order to introduce a new slot/event/episode (cf. Strachan, 1941: 227-8).²⁵²⁴ The section 10:22-42 develops at two different settings (cf. Powell, 1990: 69-83; Tolmie, 1999: 105-13).²⁵²⁵ The settings of the central slot (i.e., vv. 22-39) and of the second slot (vv. 40-42) develop progressively within the narratorial framework. The narrator provides greater detail about the setting of the central slot in vv. 22-24a and of the second slot at v. 40. The setting of the dialogue at vv. 22-39 overlaps in the following way: *religious and cultic*, as it happens during the Festival of Dedication (τὰ ἐγκαίνια, v. 22a; cf. Robertson, 1932: 184; Resseguie, 2005: 113-4);²⁵²⁶ *geographical*, as it mentions the place where the incident takes place (ἐν τοῖς Ἱεροσολύμοις, v. 22a; Resseguie, 2005: 87-120); *architectural*, as it happens within the temple (ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ, specifically, ἐν τῇ στοᾷ τοῦ

²⁵²² Haenchen (1984: 2: 49) states that, "Verse 22 opens a new segment that extends as far as verse 39. The temporal notices, 'feast of Dedication' and 'winter', clearly separate this segment from the preceding".

²⁵²³ Robertson (1932: 184) opines that, "Tote does not mean that the preceding events followed immediately after the incidents in 10:1-21". What Robertson says has to be reckon with considerable seriousness as there is a considerable lapse between the events in 10:22-39 and 10:1-21, possibly nearly three months (from just after Tabernacles 7:37 to Dedication 10:22). Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 186; Painter, 1993: 359.

²⁵²⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 303; cf. Manipampil, 2004: 292-3; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 208) says that, "... 10:22-39, which takes place at the feast of the Dedication, while being closely tied up with the subject of shepherd and sheep (cf. vv. 26-29), can nonetheless be considered as a unity". As Ridderbos (1987/1997: 367) rightly mentions that, the Feast of Dedication is a feast of renewal or dedication of the temple. It lasted for eight days just like the feast of Tabernacles, and is "kept alive the memory of the restoration of the temple under Judas Maccabeus on Kislev 25, 165 BCE, after its destruction by the Syrians".

²⁵²⁵ Dodd (1960: 354-62) considers 10:22-39 as an appendix to 9:1-10:21. But the aspect of time difference prompts us to treat the present pericope in a distinct way. In Quast's commentary, he treats chaps. 10 and 11 together. He (1991/1996: 82) says that, "The discourse of chap. 10 and the sign of chap. 11 share the principal theme of death and resurrection".

²⁵²⁶ In the Jewish year, Hanukkah, the "feast of dedication" (10:22), came soon after Sukkoth, the festival of tabernacles, indicating another journey to Jerusalem. The Greek term here (ἐγκαίνια) means "renewal" and appears in the LXX for rededications; it also vaguely resembles the sound of "Hanukkah", "dedication", also used of consecration in the MT. See, Keener, 2003: 821; Brown, 1966: 402; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 304; Manipampil, 2004: 292-3. Stibbe (1993: 116) says that, "The mood of the story has now changed. The sense of impending doom in 10:1-21 is now heightened by the atmospheric statement of the narrator in v. 22, χειμῶν ἦν, 'it was winter'. From the springtime of Passover (chap. 2 and chap. 6) and the autumn of Tabernacles (chap. 7) we now come to the winter of Dedication". Köstenberger (2004: 309) adds further stating that, "Unlike Tabernacles and the other two major annual feasts that were celebrated in Jerusalem, Dedication, with its festive candles, was joyously commemorated in Jewish homes as well as in the temple".

Σολομῶνος, v. 23; cf. Witherington, 1995: 190; Stibbe, 1993: 117),²⁵²⁷ and *climatic/season* unfolds during the winter season (χειμῶν ἦν, v. 22b; see Table 99).²⁵²⁸ The second slot/app mostly developed in an *architectural* and *geographical* setting: *first*, Jewish attempt to arrest Jesus in the temple and his escape to another setting (v. 39); and *second*, Jesus' going away (ἀποχωρεῖ) and staying (ἔμεινεν ἐκεῖ) across the Jordan (πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, vv. 40, 42; cf. Strachan, 2005: 229; Resseguie, 2005: 87-120).²⁵²⁹ Thus there is a transfer of setting from the previous slot to the latter. The following table provides a broader picture about the details of the central dialogue (vv. 22-39) of the episode:

<i>Occasion</i>	: Festival of the Dedication
<i>Location</i>	: Jerusalem
<i>Season</i>	: Winter
<i>Juncture</i>	: While Jesus was walking in the temple
<i>Spot</i>	: In the portico of Solomon
<i>Interlocutors</i>	: Jesus and the Jews gathered around him

Table 99: A summary of the setting and the interlocutors of the episode

The dialogue of the central slot begins with a question from the Jews (v. 24b) and a subsequent response from Jesus (vv. 25b-30; see Table 100).²⁵³⁰ Painter (1993: 359) states that the central disputation (10:22-39) has direct links with the situation of chapter 5 (and 7) In both chapters 5 and 10 Jesus' words concerning his relation to the Father and his *works* are closely related to the reported attempts to kill him in chap. 5 lead well into chapters 7-10". As in the case of chap.

²⁵²⁷ Neyrey (2007: 186) says that, "The 'portico of Solomon' serves as an appropriate site for a forensic process. The portico of Solomon's 'portico' or 'stoa' was a colonnade along the east side of the temple platform (Josephus, *JW.*, 5.15.396-401 and 20.220-1; cf. Smith, 1999: 210; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 304-5). In general, it served as a place for groups to study, discourse, and debate (Acts 3:11; 5:12).

²⁵²⁸ Strachan (1941: 228) says that, "The scene is regarded as a symbolic picture of Jewish hostility, manifested in the Temple, the very centre of Jewish religion. The pressing around Him of the Jews is not mere eagerness for His answer to their question (v. 24), but the manifestation of their hostile intentions. It was indeed winter, a cold and implacable enmity". Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 49; Lindars, 1972: 366-7; Blomberg, 2001: 161; Brant, 2011: 223-4; Neyrey, 2007: 186.

²⁵²⁹ Neyrey (2007: 191) says that, "Since John 5, Jesus has been on trial by courts and crowds, which have threatened him to death (5:18; 7:1, 32-36; 8:20, 37, 40, 59; 10:31, 39). All of this took place in 'Jerusalem', not at a specific location as a place of rejection and hostility. But when Jesus crosses the Jordan, he finds acceptance and safety". Moloney (1998: 314) describes about the structure of the episode as follows: "*First*, vv. 22-23: Setting in the Temple at the time of Dedication, wintertime; *second*, v. 24: 'The Jews' raise the question of the Messiah; *third*, vv. 25-30: Jesus tells them of the basis and purpose of his messianic status; *fourth*, vv. 31-39: In heated dispute Jesus points to his works as proof of his oneness with the Father (vv. 32, 34-35, 37-38), while 'the Jews' accuse him (vv. 31, 33), charge him with blasphemy (vv. 33, 36), and seek to arrest him (v. 39); and *fifth*, Jesus leaves the Temple (v. 40). Many search for Jesus, recalling that what the Baptist said about him was true (v. 42)". The narrator adds more details as "the place where John had been baptizing earlier" (ἐν τῷ τόπῳ Ἰωάννης τὸ πρῶτον βαπτίζων. Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 50; Hoskyns, 1947: 394; Carson, 1991: 400-1.

²⁵³⁰ Here, the Jews ask Jesus, "How long are you going to keep our life in suspense? If you are the Christ, show it frankly" (v. 24). There begins Jesus' response to them. See Brant, 2011: 162; Hoskyns, 1947: 386-9; Brant, 2011: 230-1; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 173-4; Keener, 2003: 824-5.

Jewish reactions toward Jesus are described here in v. 31 and v. 39; in v. 31, they took up stones to stone at Jesus (Ἐβάστασαν πάλιν λίθους οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἵνα λιθάσωσιν αὐτόν, v. 31)²⁵³¹ and, in v. 39, they attempt to arrest him and he escapes (Ἐζήτουν [οὖν] αὐτόν πάλιν πιάσαι, καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς αὐτῶν, v. 39).²⁵³²

Slots	Episode 11: John 10:22-42
Slot #1 ²⁵³³ 10:22-39	<p><i>Jews</i>: Ἔως πότε τὴν ψυχὴν ἡμῶν αἵρεις; εἰ σὺ εἶ ὁ Χριστός, εἰπὲ ἡμῖν παρρησίᾳ</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Εἶπον ὑμῖν καὶ οὐ πιστεύετε· τὰ ἔργα ἃ ἐγὼ ποιῶ ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι τοῦ πατρὸς μου ταῦτα μαρτυρεῖ περὶ ἐμοῦ· ἀλλὰ ὑμεῖς οὐ πιστεύετε, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστε ἐκ τῶν προβάτων τῶν ἐμῶν. τὰ πρόβατα τὰ ἐμὰ τῆς φωνῆς μου ἀκούουσιν, καὶ γὰρ γινώσκω αὐτὰ καὶ ἀκολουθοῦσίν μοι, καὶ γὰρ δίδωμι αὐτοῖς ζωὴν αἰώνιον καὶ οὐ μὴ ἀπόλυνται εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα καὶ οὐχ ἄρπάσει τις αὐτὰ ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς μου. ὁ πατήρ μου ὃ δέδωκέν μοι πάντων μεῖζόν ἐστιν, καὶ οὐδεὶς δύναται ἄρπάζειν ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς τοῦ πατρὸς. ἐγὼ καὶ ὁ πατήρ ἐν ἑσμεν.</p> <p><i>Jesus (again)</i>: Πολλὰ ἔργα καλὰ ἔδειξα ὑμῖν ἐκ τοῦ πατρὸς· διὰ ποῖον αὐτῶν ἔργον ἐμεῖς λιθάζετε;</p> <p><i>Jews</i>: Περὶ καλοῦ ἔργου οὐ λιθάζομεν σε ἀλλὰ περὶ βλασφημίας, καὶ ὅτι σὺ ἄνθρωπος ὢν ποιεῖς σεαυτὸν θεόν</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Οὐκ ἔστιν γεγραμμένον ἐν τῷ νόμῳ ὑμῶν ὅτι Ἐγὼ εἶπα, Θεοί ἔστε; εἰ ἐκείνους εἶπεν θεοὺς πρὸς οὓς ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ οὐ δύναται λυθῆναι ἡ γραφή, ὃν ὁ πατήρ ἡγίασεν καὶ ἀπέστειλεν εἰς τὸν κόσμον ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι Βλασφημεῖς, ὅτι εἶπον, Υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ εἰμι; εἰ οὐ ποιῶ τὰ ἔργα τοῦ πατρὸς μου, μὴ πιστεύτέ μοι· εἰ δὲ ποιῶ, καὶ ἐμοὶ μὴ πιστεύητε, τοῖς ἔργοις πιστεύετε, ἵνα γνῶτε καὶ γινώσκητε ὅτι ἐν ἐμοὶ ὁ πατήρ καὶ ἐγὼ ἐν τῷ πατρὶ</p>
Slot #2 ²⁵³⁴ 10:40-42	<p><i>Many people</i>: Ἰωάννης μὲν σημεῖον ἐποίησεν οὐδέν, πάντα δὲ ὅσα εἶπεν Ἰωάννης περὶ τούτου ἀληθὴ ἦν</p>

Table 100: The dialogue text of 10:22-42

11.2. Micro-Analysis

11.2.1. Slot One (10:22-39)

The content of the first slot (10:22-39) can be understood in the following way.²⁵³⁵ The Jews initiate the dialogue by way of a question and a subsequent challenge, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly” (Ἔως πότε τὴν ψυχὴν ἡμῶν αἵρεις; εἰ σὺ εἶ

²⁵³¹ Cf. Gaebelein, 1936: 190; Morris, 1995: 466; Lindars, 1972: 371; Barrett, 1978: 382-3; Robertson, 1932: 187.

²⁵³² Carson (1991: 400) opines that, “However precious such teaching might be to later believers, it was further evidence of blasphemy to those who first heard it. But their attempt to seize him was as futile as the attempt recorded in 7:30, and doubtless for the same reason: his hour had not yet come”. Cf. Gaebelein, 1936: 192; Stibbe, 1993: 119-20; Morris, 1995: 470.

²⁵³³ While the narrator’s role is conspicuous at vv. 22-24a, 25a, 31-32a, 33a, 34a, and 39, characters’ utterances are seen in vv. 24b, 25b-30, 32b, 33b, and 34b-38.

²⁵³⁴ In this slot (vv. 40-42), the narrator takes control and reports the movements of Jesus, the gathering of people, their utterance, and finally their activity of believing.

²⁵³⁵ John’s literary style is supplemented by interlocutors’ interactions (like the Jewish interrogation) and Jesus’ prolonged answers. Carson (1991: 390) titled the section of 10:22-39 as “Christological claims and open opposition”. Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 386-93; Stibbe, 1993: 116-9; Morris, 1995: 458-70; Robertson, 1932: 183-90; Painter, 1993: 359-63.

ὁ Χριστός, εἰπὲ ἡμῖν παρησίᾳ, v. 24b; cf. Resseguie, 2001: 35-6; O'Day, 1986b: 9-18).²⁵³⁶ Their *suspense* (ἀλγεις) about the role and identity of Jesus is expressed at the beginning of the episode itself (see Table 101).²⁵³⁷ Jesus' response to their question/challenge is reported in vv. 25b-30 that begins with a warning against their "unbelief" (v. 25a) and proceeds in parallel with various themes and ideas from the previous episode (cf. Robertson, 1932: 183-90; 2004: 138-9).²⁵³⁸ His expressions about the "work" (ἔργον) are already discussed in 9: 3-25b; cf. Dodd, 1960: 356).²⁵³⁹ Similarly, the idea of "snatching the sheep out of his hand" is discussed in the monologue section in 10:1-18 (cf. vv. 28b, 29b; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 8). While Jesus' interlocutors are pictured as those who snatch the sheep, he presents himself as the provider of eternal life (v. 28a; cf. Wallace, 1996: 400). In that way, the first answer of Jesus is mostly a reformulation from the previous dialogue-turned-monologue section (9:1-10:21) and his final statement, "The Father and I are one" (v. 30; ἐγὼ καὶ ὁ πατὴρ ἓν ἐσμεν), reveals the messianic identity of Jesus conspicuously (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 308).²⁵⁴² The reaction was taking up of stones against him (v. 31; see Table 101).²⁵⁴³

²⁵³⁶ Jesus' use of παρησία in 10:1-5, Jews' misunderstanding reported in 10:6, Jesus' further explanation in 10:7-18 and the subsequent division in 10:19-21 ended in a request for a παρησία-talk. Haenchen (1984: 2: 50) states the imperative, 'tell us' (εἰπὲ) there corresponds the aorist, 'I told (you)' (εἶπον), which is similar sounding Greek wordplay that cannot be reproduced exactly in German (but in English: 'Tell us plainly'—'I told you').

²⁵³⁷ Keener (2003: 1: 824) states that, "That his interlocutors demand that he reveal more explicitly what he has been implying about his identity (10:24) . . ." Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 368; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 307-8; Witherington, 1995: 190; Maniparampil, 2004: 293.

²⁵³⁸ The continued expressions "you do not believe" (vv. 25a, 26a), "you do not belong to my sheep" (v. 27a), and "my sheep hear my voice" (v. 27a; cf. v. 3a, 4b) point toward the antagonistic tendencies of the interlocutors.

²⁵³⁹ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 368; cf. Nicol, 1972: 116) says that, "Elsewhere 'works' embraces the totality of Jesus' life, that is, his words as well as his miracles (cf. 4:34; 17:4), and his words are called 'the work' (14:10)". The works those Jesus performs are indicated as "the works that I do in my Father's name" and "testimony to him" (v. 25b).

²⁵⁴⁰ While in v. 28b Jesus says "No one will snatch them out of my hand", in v. 29b he says: ". . . no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand". The unity of the Father and the Son expressed in the passage, especially in v. 30 ("The Father and I are one"), is an indication that comes into the minds of the readers here. Cf. Witherington, 1995: 191; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 307-8.

²⁵⁴¹ Jesus' response to them (vv. 25-30) is plainly configured and he divides the Jewish community into two categories: "My Sheep" and "Those who do not belong to my Sheep" (vv. 26-27). The "My Sheep" category of people to whom Jesus' voice, he knows them, and they follow him". Their qualifications (connected with eternal life) are portrayed in the following verses (vv. 28-29). Probably Jesus' saying, "I and the Father are one" (v. 31), provoked the people to pick up stones to stone at him. Van der Watt (2000: 56) considers 10:25-30 as an application of aspects found in the preceding sections of chap. 10.

²⁵⁴² Keener (2003: 1: 825-6) points out that, "In this context, Jesus' unity with the Father that follows (10:30) is his divinity, though outside their Johannine context the words of 10:30 would not have needed to be construed in this manner". Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 308; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 371; Witherington, 1995: 191; Haenchen, 1950; Hoskyns, 1947: 389-90; Blomberg, 2001: 162-3.

²⁵⁴³ Stibbe (1993: 118) considers the claim of Jesus in v. 30 is "a claim for ontological equality with God". Cf. Gaebele, 1936: 190; Morris, 1995: 466; Lindars, 1972: 371; Barrett, 1978: 382-3; Beasley-Murray, 1972: 187; Robertson, 1932: 187.

John 10:22-39	Overview
<p>v.22: Ἐγένετο τότε τὰ ἐγκαίνια ἐν τοῖς Ἱεροσολύμοις, χειμῶν ἦν, v.23: καὶ περιεπάτει ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ἐν τῇ στοᾷ τοῦ Σολομῶνος. v.24: ἐκύκλωσαν οὖν αὐτὸν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι καὶ ἔλεγον αὐτῷ· ἕως πότε τὴν ψυχὴν ἡμῶν αἰρείς; εἰ σὺ εἶ ὁ χριστός, εἰπὲ ἡμῖν παρρησίᾳ. v.25: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· εἰπον ὑμῖν καὶ οὐ πιστεύετε· τὰ ἔργα ἃ ἐγὼ ποιῶ ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι τοῦ πατρὸς μου ταῦτα μαρτυρεῖ περὶ ἐμοῦ· v.26: ἀλλὰ ὑμεῖς οὐ πιστεύετε, ὅτι οὐκ ἐστὲ ἐκ τῶν προβάτων τῶν ἐμῶν. v.27: τὰ πρόβατα τὰ ἐμὰ τῆς φωνῆς μου ἀκούουσιν, κἀγὼ γινώσκω αὐτὰ καὶ ἀκολουθοῦσίν μοι, v.28: κἀγὼ δίδωμι αὐτοῖς ζωὴν αἰώνιον καὶ οὐ μὴ ἀπόλωνται εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα καὶ οὐχ ἁρπάσει τις αὐτὰ ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς μου. v.29: ὁ πατὴρ μου ὃ δέδωκέν μοι πάντων μεῖζόν ἐστιν, καὶ οὐδεὶς δύναται ἁρπάξαι ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς τοῦ πατρὸς. v.30: ἐγὼ καὶ ὁ πατὴρ ἐν ἑσμεν. v.31: Ἐβάστασαν πάλιν λίθους οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἵνα λιθάσωσιν αὐτόν. v.32: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· πολλὰ ἔργα καλὰ ἔδειξα ὑμῖν ἐκ τοῦ πατρὸς· διὰ ποῖον αὐτῶν ἔργον ἐμὲ λιθάσετε; v.33: ἀπεκρίθησαν αὐτῷ οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι· περὶ καλοῦ ἔργου οὐ λιθάζομέν σε ἀλλὰ περὶ βλασφημίας, καὶ ὅτι σὺ ἄνθρωπος ὢν ποιεῖς σεαυτὸν θεόν. v.34: ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς [ὁ] Ἰησοῦς· οὐκ ἔστιν γεγραμμένον ἐν τῷ νόμῳ ὑμῶν ὅτι ἐγὼ εἶπα· θεοί ἐστε; v.35: εἰ ἐκείνους εἶπεν θεοὺς πρὸς οὓς ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ οὐ δύναται λυθῆναι ἡ γραφή, v.36: ὃν ὁ πατὴρ ἡγάσεν καὶ ἀπέστειλεν εἰς τὸν κόσμον ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι βλασφημεῖς, ὅτι εἶπον· υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ εἰμι; v.37: εἰ οὐ ποιῶ τὰ ἔργα τοῦ πατρὸς μου, μὴ πιστεύετε μοι· v.38: εἰ δὲ ποιῶ, κἂν ἐμοὶ μὴ πιστεύητε, τοῖς ἔργοις πιστεύετε, ἵνα γνῶτε καὶ γινώσκητε ὅτι ἐν ἐμοὶ ὁ πατὴρ κἀγὼ ἐν τῷ πατρί. v.39: Ἐζήτουν [οὖν] αὐτὸν πάλιν πιάσαι, καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς αὐτῶν.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 22-38 is comprised of five utterance units (vv. 24b, 25b-30, 32b, 33b, 34b-38); out of the five utterance units, two are of the Jews (vv. 24b, 33b) and three are of Jesus (vv. 25b-30, 32b, 34b-38);</p> <p>(2) The slot can equally be divided into two parts on the basis of two reactions of the Jews: the stoning attempt (Ἐβάστασαν πάλιν λίθους οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἵνα λιθάσωσιν αὐτόν, v. 31) and the arrest attempt (Ἐζήτουν [οὖν] αὐτόν πάλιν πιάσαι, καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς αὐτῶν, v. 39);</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 22-24a, 31, 39) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 24a, 25a, 32a, 33a, 34a).</p>

Table 101: The dialogue of 10:22-39 within the narratorial framework

The courage in the character of Jesus is once again revealed through his *unchanging position* and *stern answer* in v. 32.²⁵⁴⁴ Jesus' statement about the good works from the Father and his counter-question concerning the reason for their attempt to stone him mark the beginning of the second half of the dialogue (v. 32).²⁵⁴⁵ The reason for their 'stoning attempt' is expressed in v. 33 from their own mouth: *for blasphemy* (βλασφημίας), and *though only a human being, making yourself God* (ποιεῖς σεαυτὸν θεόν, v. 33; cf. Smith, 1999: 212).²⁵⁴⁶ Jesus continues his response (vv. 34-38) by raising another question with an intertextual reference at v. 34 (also at v. 35; cf. Psalm 82:6) in order to reemphasise his messianic role (cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 828; Brant, 2011: 163).²⁵⁴⁷

²⁵⁴⁴ He responded to his interlocutors irrespective of their negative and violent reaction. As a determined dialoguer, Jesus maintains his unshaken position even when the situation challenging.

²⁵⁴⁵ Robertson (1932: 187) states that, "They [i.e., Jews] had the stones in their hands stretched back to fling at him [i.e., Jesus], a threatening attitude". Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 309; Gaebelein, 1936: 190; Morris, 1995: 466; Lindars, 1972: 371; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 175; Keener, 2003: 827; Barrett, 1978: 383.

²⁵⁴⁶ Haenchen (1984: 2: 50) says that, "The Jews 'of course' again misunderstand Jesus' words as blasphemy: Jesus, a man, makes himself God". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 372; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 309-10; Bruce, 1983: 234; Barrett, 1978: 383-4; Morris, 1995: 466-7; Strachan, 1941: 228; Painter, 1993: 361-2.

²⁵⁴⁷ Tasker (1960: 133; cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 293-4; Gaebelein, 1936: 192) says that, "The Pharisees, confined within a narrow legalism, still fail to see in Jesus the fulfillment of their Scriptures. It is indeed the 'winter' of their

Another question follows in v. 36, where Jesus clarifies three important things about his *first*, he has been sanctified (ἡγίασεν) by God; *second*, he has been sent (ἀπέστειλεν κόσμον) into the world by the Father; and *third*, a recollection of his previous statement “God’s Son” (Υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ εἰμι, cf. vv. 29-30; see Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 307-8).²⁵⁴⁸ In v. 38 Jesus reveals some of the important aspects of his life in relation to his interlocutors: *first*, in him is a requirement for his interlocutors because he is ‘doing the works of his Father’; *second*, he will continue his work irrespective of people’s unbelief (v. 38a); *third*, believing in his work means believing in him (v. 38); and *fourth*, only through believing in him and his works can one understand the dynamic relationship between himself and the Father (v. 38; cf. Keene, 1980: 1: 830).²⁵⁴⁹ Jesus’ final statement, i.e., “the Father is in me and I am in the Father” (ἐν πατρὶ καὶ γὰρ ἐν τῷ πατρὶ), leads to another violent reaction from the Jews, as they attempt to stone him (v. 39; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 82; see Table 101).²⁵⁵⁰ The entire dialogue, thus, demonstrates Jesus’ messianic claims in the midst of Jewish antagonistic attitudes.

The central slot (10:22-39) is made up of a range of talk-forms.²⁵⁵¹ The forms in the utterances of the Jews contain: *suspense question* (v. 24b),²⁵⁵² *challenge-statement* (v. 24b),²⁵⁵³ *Messianic statement* (v. 24b),²⁵⁵⁴ and *reason for an action/judgmental utterance* (v. 33; see Table 102).²⁵⁵⁵

discontent. In consequence, they are not only untrustworthy shepherds of God’s people, but are showing that they ought no longer to be classed among the sheep that pay attention to his voice”. Maniparampil (2004: 293-4) “Jews did not object to call the judges and kings ‘gods’ since they performed quasi-divine functions like prophets”. This is because they were vehicles of the word of God (John 10:35). Jesus goes from the ‘lesser to the greater’ (2004: 294) further says that, “If the people who were vehicles of the word of God were called ‘gods’, Jesus, the incarnation of the Word himself (1:1-2) has not blasphemed but instead told the truth that he is God (John 20:28)”. Cf. Morris, 1995: 467-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 175-7; Haenchen, 1984: 2: 50; Hoskyns, 1947: 39; Ridderbos, 1972: 374; Carson, 1991: 397.

²⁵⁴⁸ Strachan (1941: 229) comments that, “Jesus is one whom the Father ‘consecrated’ and sent into the world in His own person and ministry, completely utters the whole ‘Word of God’. He is the ‘Logos made flesh’ (John 1:1). The unique sonship of Jesus is made known by His ‘works’, which include both words and deeds (John 10:38).” Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 50; Carson, 1991: 398-9; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 374-6; Hoskyns, 1947: 392; Bruce, 1983: 189-91.

²⁵⁴⁹ Brown (1966: 412; cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 50) opines that, “. . . second part of the discourse at Dedecim even as did the first, with a statement of the unity that exists between Father and Son (v. 38, compared with v. 30).”

²⁵⁵⁰ Haenchen (1984: 2: 50) comments that, “The consequence of this new assertion is of course a misunderstanding on the part of the Jews, who once again want to arrest Jesus. How he eludes them is not clear. Instead, we learn that Jesus departs”. Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 313; Neyrey, 2007: 189-91; Hoskyns, 1947: 392; Lindars, 1972: 376; Robertson, 1932: 190; Carson, 1991: 400.

²⁵⁵¹ Brant (2004: 138-39) sees the use of ‘flying contest’, ‘conflict escalation’, and ‘exegetical traditions’ in the development of the dramatic dialogue.

²⁵⁵² The *suspense* of the Jews regarding the identity of Jesus is now come out in the form of a question (v. 24b).

²⁵⁵³ The dialogue progresses as the Jews’ *challenges* (v. 24b; cf. v. 33) prompt Jesus for his *ripostes* (vv. 25-34-38) on two occasions within the slot.

²⁵⁵⁴ Stibbe (1993: 117-18) states that, “The elusiveness of Jesus is a dominant feature in John’s characterization of the protagonist in chaps. 5-10. In 10:22-39 this feature re-emerges in a forceful way. The Jews in v. 24 ask Jesus to speak ‘plainly’. The word here *parrēsia* which functions to emphasize both the elusiveness of Jesus’ movements and his move about *parrēsia*, ‘openly’, 7:4) and the elusiveness of his language (Jesus does not always speak ‘plainly’, 16:29)”. Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 386-7; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 173-4; Carson, 1991: 392.

²⁵⁵⁵ The Jews are attempting to justify their action of taking up of stones against Jesus.

utterances the forms are: *revelation of unbelief* (vv. 25a, 26),²⁵⁵⁶ *work-centered utterance* (vv. 25b),²⁵⁵⁷ *sheep-shepherd imagery/symbolism* (vv. 26-27; cf. Neyrey, 2009: 282-312),²⁵⁵⁸ *mystical statements* (vv. 30, 38b),²⁵⁵⁹ *evidential statement* (v. 32a),²⁵⁶⁰ *irony* (v. 32),²⁵⁶¹ *rhetorical questions* (vv. 32b, 36),²⁵⁶² *defence/intertextuality/midrash* (vv. 34-35; cf. Brant, 2011: 163),²⁵⁶³ *belief-statement* (vv. 37-38a),²⁵⁶⁴ and *I-and-Father statements* (vv. 36-38; see Table 102).²⁵⁶⁵ The structure of the slot is very peculiarly fashioned. The first half (vv. 24a-30) of the dialogue deals with a *question* of the Jews and Jesus' *response* to it with serious concern; the second half (vv. 33-38) deals with an *accusation* of the Jews and a *response* by Jesus in equal length and importance.²⁵⁶⁶ The utterance of Jesus at v. 32 is placed between these two dialogue divisions. While the first half ends with a stoning initiative (v. 31),²⁵⁶⁷ the second half ends with an attempt of arrest (v. 39; cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 80-2).²⁵⁶⁸ While the utterances of the Jews are mostly about the identity of Jesus, his responses are predominantly about his sonship. Jesus' sayings are lengthier than the utterances of his counterparts.²⁵⁶⁹ In both cases the conversation of Jesus ends with an important saying about his relationship with the Father (vv. 30, 38b).²⁵⁷⁰ The dramatic nature of the episode can be comprehended only when both the actions and the dialogues are taken

²⁵⁵⁶ Painter (1993: 360) puts it, "It is important for the evangelist that Jesus himself should defend the Christology proclaimed in his gospel because it involves a reinterpretation of traditional messianic categories". Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 49-50; Bruce, 1983: 231; Carson, 1991: 392-3; Gaebelein, 1936: 187-8.

²⁵⁵⁷ See Morris, 1995: 462; Carson, 1991: 392-3; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 211-2; Hoskyns, 1947: 387; Blomberg, 2001: 162; Robertson, 1932: 185; Keener, 2003: 824-5.

²⁵⁵⁸ Lindars (1972: 368-69) considers it as a "parable" or an "allegory". See Hoskyns, 1947: 387-8; Robertson, 1932: 186; Witherington, 1995: 190; Barrett, 1978: 380-1; Carson, 1991: 393.

²⁵⁵⁹ The unity of the Father and of the Son is firmly affirmed in these utterance-units.

²⁵⁶⁰ Jesus' statement here attempts to draw the attention of his interlocutors to "many good works from the Father" as evidence.

²⁵⁶¹ *Irony* is a continuous phenomenon here (see vv. 22-23, 29-30, 31-33, 37-38, 39; cf. Duke, 1985: 74, 79, 112, 169, 186). In v. 32, the irony of the episode is more conspicuous. Duke (1985: 46, 51-2, 90, 130, 140, and 166) says that, "It is an irony of simple incongruity. Jesus presents two images: here are my good works—noble, beautiful (*kala*) works, works clearly from the Father; and there are the stones in your hands".

²⁵⁶² Jesus' question here is *rhetorical* in nature. The response of the Jews in v. 33 implicitly acknowledges Jesus' works. Similarly, his question in v. 36 is *rhetorical* as he proves it from the tradition of his interlocutors.

²⁵⁶³ Painter (1993: 363) states that, "With the combination of functional and ontological sonship we find the distinctive Johannine Christology, which is the result of a reinterpretation of the tradition". See Haenchen, 1984: 2: 50; Witherington, 1995: 191; Neyrey, 2007: 189-90; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 310-1; Maniparampil, 2004: 293-4; Bruce, 1983: 234-5; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 372-3; Barrett, 1978: 384-5; Carson, 1991: 397-9.

²⁵⁶⁴ Cf. Carson, 1991: 399-400; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 312-3; Keener, 2003: 830; Morris, 1995: 469-70; Barrett, 1978: 386; Witherington, 1995: 191; Kanagaraj, 2005: 350-1; Painter, 1993: 363.

²⁵⁶⁵ Painter (1993: 363) says that, "What the evangelist does is to show the implications of believing that Jesus does the works of God and to argue that recognition of Jesus as a messenger of God implies recognising him as Son of God, one with God, in whom God is present and acting". Cf. Strachan, 1941: 228-9; Bruce, 1983: 235-6.

²⁵⁶⁶ Brown (1966: 404) comments that, "The nicely balanced arrangement of this section also points to a carefully edited scene". He (1966: 404-5) says further that, "There are two basic questions: Is Jesus the Messiah (24)? Does he make himself God (33)? Each receives an answer of approximately the same length (25-30, 34-38), an answer that ends on the theme of Jesus' unity with his Father".

²⁵⁶⁷ Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 175; Blomberg, 2001: 163; Carson, 1991: 396; Painter, 1993: 361; Bruce, 1983: 233.

²⁵⁶⁸ Cf. Bruce, 1983: 236; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 177-8; Painter, 1993: 363; Robertson, 1932: 190.

²⁵⁶⁹ While the Jews' two utterances are restricted within two verses (vv. 24b-33), Jesus' three utterances are presented in twelve verses (vv. 25-30, 32, 34-38).

²⁵⁷⁰ Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 50; Hoskyns, 1947: 389-90, 393; Carson, 1991: 394-5, 400; Gaebelein, 1936: 189-90.

together. There is a remarkable similarity between the *forensic inquiry and defence* in 1 and the synoptic trial tradition reported in Mark 14:53-65.²⁵⁷¹

Utterance	Form	Content
Jews	Surprise/suspense question, challenging statement, Messianic query	How long will you keep us in suspense? If you the Messiah, tell us plainly
Jesus	Revelation of unbelief, work-centered utterance, sheep-shepherd imagery/symbolism, mystical statement	I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one
Jesus	Work-centered utterance, evidential statement, rhetorical question	I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these are you going to stone me?
Jews	Reason for an action, judgmental utterance	It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you, but for blasphemy, because you, though a human being, are making yourself God
Jesus	Defensive statement, intertextuality/midrash, rhetorical question, work-centered utterance, belief-statement, <i>I-and-Father</i> statements, mystical utterance	Is it not written in your law, 'I said, you are gods'? Those to whom the word of God came were called gods—and the scripture cannot be annulled—you say that the one whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world is blaspheming because I said, 'I am God's Son'? If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me. But if I do, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father

Table 102: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 10:22-39

The dialogue in 10:22-39 shows tenets of a *forensic* (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 186-191),²⁵⁷² *Messianic* and *defensive/apologetical*²⁵⁷⁴ dialogue (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 304-14).²⁵⁷⁵ The feature of *intertextuality/midrash* is applied to it (v. 34; cf. Psalm 82:6) in order to dec

²⁵⁷¹ Von Wahlde (1984: 575-7; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 117) observes the same form and content in the three trial scenes like 6:31-59, 8:13-59, and 10:22-39: *first*, The Jews demand proof of Jesus' identity (6:30; 8:25; 10:24); *second*, Jesus tells them that they have already seen/heard but do not believe (6:36; 8:25; 10:25); *third*, Jesus gives the reasons for their unbelief (6:37; 8:47; 10:26); *fourth*, Jesus speaks of those who do believe (6:37; 8:47a; 10:27); *fifth*, Jesus says that he does not lose any of those who are his (6:39; 8:51; 10:28b); and *sixth*, Jesus says that those who do believe will have eternal life (6:40; 8:35; 10:28a). Cf. Pryor, 1992: 46; Hoskyns, 1947: 386-91; Carson, 1991: 392-6.

²⁵⁷² Strachan (1941: 227-8) considers 10:19-42 as a "Discourse and Controversy" section. Cf. Dodd, 1952: 186-91; Bruce, 1983: 230-7; Carson, 1991: 392-400.

²⁵⁷³ The overall dialogue is developing on the basis of Jewish Messianic queries and Jesus' Messianic claim: *Jesus' arguments are mostly against Jewish religiosity.*

²⁵⁷⁵ It also shows tenets of a transformative, declarative, figurative and mystical, revelatory, conflict oriented, belief and unbelief, and A to B and B to A sequential dialogue. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 172-8; Carson, 1984: 2: 49-50; Strachan, 1941: 227-9; Neyrey, 2007: 186-91.

truthfulness of Jesus' messiahship.²⁵⁷⁶ As in the previous episodes, Jesus' ambiguous language creates *misunderstanding* among the Jews.²⁵⁷⁷ According to Thatcher (2006: 120; cf. Thatcher, 2011: 3349-72; Brant, 2011: 163), "John 10:34-36 is a good example of a 'neck riddle', a situation where the protagonist must answer or pose a difficult question in order to 'save his neck' with wit. Jesus shocks the Jews at the Feast of Dedication by claiming that he is one with the Father (10:22-31); they respond by collecting stones to punish his blasphemy".²⁵⁷⁸ It is also a narratorial dialogue as both the 'telling' of the narrator and the 'showing and telling' of the interlocutors is caricatured with specificity. The dialogue maintains both *question-and-answer* (vv. 24-30) and *accusation-and-response* (vv. 33-38) format.²⁵⁷⁹ It also has all the features of a *challenge-and-riposte* dialogue. Stibbe considers the slot as a "predominantly forensic discourse". He (1993: 117) says that, "Trial features are suggested by the use of interrogation, by the use of *martureō* (to testify) in v. 25, by the legal evidence of the miracles and by the introduction of the blasphemy charge in 10:33 and 36—a charge which features in the passion narrative (19:7)".²⁵⁸⁰ In the dialogic slot, the overarching forensic tenet is supplemented by Jesus' messianic claims.

The slot has the following functions within the extended Johannine story. The metaphorical-monologue turned community-dialogue at 10:1-21 suddenly changes into an antithetical-dialogue between Jesus and his interlocutors in 10:22-39.²⁵⁸¹ Its theme is synonymous with other Johannine dialogues, conflict between the believing and the unbelieving. The dialogue further increases the tension between the protagonist and the antagonists (cf. Brant, 2011: 162-3).²⁵⁸² The main conflict of the dialogue is between the ideologies of Jesus (based on his Father's will) and of the Jews (based on their pseudo-religiosity).²⁵⁸³ The Jewish reaction in the episode is severe and their violent attitude is on an increasing mode. This feature of act/action-orientation is complimentary

²⁵⁷⁶ See what Neyrey (2007: 189-90) says about *Midrash* on Psalm 82 in John 10:34.

²⁵⁷⁷ The violent attitude of the Jews, soon after his long discourses at vv. 25-30 and vv. 34-38, can be understood as marks of their *misunderstanding*.

²⁵⁷⁸ Thatcher (2006: 121) says that, "We may, then, confidently assert that John 10:34-36 is a mission riddle, meaning that its content explicitly promotes the Fourth Evangelist's Christological vision. This assertion does not exclude our recognition that the saying generates ambiguity in the same way that many sage riddles do—by playing with an apparent tension in the Hebrew Bible to manipulate ideological boundaries". He (2006: 121) says further that, "Chapter 10 opens with the 'Good Shepherd' discourse, which includes two 'I Am' sayings and connects Jesus' sacrificial death to his unique mandate to pasture God's people and bring them abundant life (10:1-18). Jesus builds on these claims to inform the Jews that they cannot enjoy the eternal benefit that he provides because "you are not my sheep" (10:22-29). The episode closes with an alter call, as Jesus invites the Jews to repent and accept that 'the Father is in me, and I am in the Father' (10:37-38)".

²⁵⁷⁹ See more details about the dialogue in Dodd, 1960: 354-6. Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 2: 49-50; Hoskyns, 1947: 386-94; Strachan, 1941: 227-9; Keener, 2003: 821-30; Painter, 1993: 359-64; Neyrey, 2007: 186; Robertson, 1932: 184.

²⁵⁸⁰ The presence of legal overtones links this discourse particularly with 5:19-47; 7:14-44; and 8:12-59—the three trial scenes prior to 10:22-39. See Stibbe, 1993: 117.

²⁵⁸¹ Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 49-50; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 172-80; Strachan, 1941: 227-9; Lindars, 1972: 366-78.

²⁵⁸² Dodd (1960: 356) observes that, ". . . in 10:26-8 we have reference to the shepherd and the sheep which is intelligible only to readers who have already been made acquainted with the discourse of 10:1-18. Nor can this reference be plausibly removed from its position in the controversial dialogue. The dialogue is clamped together throughout by the recurrence of the word *ἐρῶν* (vv. 25, 32, 33, 37, 38), and the reference to the shepherd and the sheep is organically related to the first occurrence of that word". Cf. Keener, 2003: 821-30; Bruce, 1983: 230-6; Neyrey, 2007: 186-91; Painter, 1993: 359-64; Blomberg, 2001: 161-4; Carson, 1991: 391-400; Robertson, 1932: 184-90; Hoskyns, 1947: 382-94.

²⁵⁸³ Bultmann (1971: 387) says that, "The symbolical nature of the scene must be obvious; it represents the struggle of the revelation with the world".

reader has to make strenuous attempts to take hold of the narrator's views and implement them into her/his day-to-day affairs (cf. Eco, 1979: 3-43; Bal, 1985/1997: 3-15). A reader who is in constant dialogue with the Johannine narrator will be convinced to follow a journey of faith 'here' and 'now'.

11.2.2. Slot Two (10:40-42)

At this point, John presents the dramatic exit of Jesus from Jerusalem and his entry into the region of Perea (cf. Brant, 2011: 164). The *content* of the slot is based on the popular opinion about Jesus, "John performed no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true" (Ἰωάννης μὲν σημεῖον ἐποίησεν οὐδέν, πάντα δὲ ὅσα εἶπεν Ἰωάννης περὶ τούτου ἀληθὴ ἦν, v. 41b).²⁵⁹³ The saying "John performed no sign" has to be understood over against the narratorial statement "Jesus performed many signs" (v. 41b; cf. 21:25).²⁵⁹⁴ Moreover, John's testimony about Jesus (see 1:19-36; cf. 3:25-30; 5:33-35) is confirmed through the successive ministry of Jesus.²⁵⁹⁵ The expressions "many came to him" (v. 41a) and "many believed in him" (v. 42) are to be read in relation to the popular point of view that is expressed in v. 41b (see Table 103). The (implicit) dialogue here connotes an important fact that John's witness came true in Jesus.

John 10:40-42	Overview
<p>v.40: Καὶ ἀπῆλθεν πάλιν πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου εἰς τὸν τόπον ὅπου ἦν Ἰωάννης τὸ πρῶτον βαπτίζων καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐκεῖ.</p> <p>v.41: καὶ πολλοὶ ἦλθον πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ ἔλεγον ὅτι Ἰωάννης μὲν σημεῖον ἐποίησεν οὐδέν, πάντα δὲ ὅσα εἶπεν Ἰωάννης περὶ τούτου ἀληθὴ ἦν.</p> <p>v.42: καὶ πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτὸν ἐκεῖ.</p>	<p>(1) The narrator reports in vv. 40-42 only one utterance unit in the direct speech form (v. 41b). But, the reader can infer the <i>implicit</i> dialogic nature of the pericope as the narrative unfolds: (a) "... and he remained there" (v. 40b); (b) "Many came to him, and they were saying" (v. 41a); and (c) "And many believed in him there" (v. 42). The narrator's abbreviating tendency is conspicuous here;</p> <p>(2) The narratives of the slot are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 40-41a, 42) and <i>formula narrative</i> (v. 41a).</p>

Table 103: The dialogue of 10:40-42 within the narratorial framework

The *form* of the seams of the dialogue can be understood as follows. The dialogue at vv. 24-39 leads the reader to a narrative that ends with a *community statement* (vv. 40-42). Smith (1999: 214) considers this section as an *interlude*. The reference to the Transjordan in 1:28 and 10:40 forms a larger *inclusion* within the BS (cf. Robertson, 1932: 190-1).²⁵⁹⁶ The episode as a whole develops

²⁵⁹³ The common Jewish dialogue among themselves is brought out here to state an important factor. Barrett (1978: 379) says, "At the close of the incident (which is also the close of the great central section of debates, chaps. 7-10) Jesus withdraws to the place where John used to baptize". The purpose of this topographical note, according to Barrett, is twofold: *first*, Jesus is represented as retiring to a place of safety, whence, at the right moment and his own free will (11:7), he will return to Jerusalem in order to give life to the world by his death; and *second*, he is once more brought into relation with the Baptist, and an opportunity is thereby given for reconsidering the Baptist's witness.

²⁵⁹⁴ Painter (1993: 364) says that, "... signs have their place in the process of the development of faith and the construction of the Johannine Christology". Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 394; Keener, 2003: 831; Gaebelein, 1936: 193.

²⁵⁹⁵ Strachan (1941: 229) states that, "Here we have the testimony of the success of Jesus' mission at the very spot where the Baptist inaugurated his". Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 394; Keener, 2003: 830-1.

²⁵⁹⁶ There are two moments of 'closure' in vv. 40-42: v. 22 to 40 and 1:28 to 10:40-42. Jesus' divinity is now affirmed by the people in their words, "John performed no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true".

from an *antithetical dialogue* in vv. 24-39 to a *positive statement* in v. 41 (cf. Painter 364).²⁵⁹⁷ The *recollection statement* of the people (v. 41) develops from the negative of John the Baptist (cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 831). In another sense, the statement in v. 41 can be considered as a fulfillment of the earlier witness statements of John (cf. Robertson, 1932: 19). There comes the role of the *prophecy-to-fulfillment formula* (see Table 104). The conflict becomes again vivid: while one group shows their unbelief and rejection of Jesus (cf. vv. 24-39), another group shows their belief (v. 42; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 315).²⁵⁹⁸ The narrator's attitude toward present Jesus from the point of view of his interlocutors is intentional. The expression "he remained there"²⁵⁹⁹ cannot simply be understood as a passive stay of Jesus in the region; but rather as an active stay of sign performances and dialogues. Similarly, the narratorial statement "many believed in him there" (v. 42; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 119) can be understood as a result of sign performances and dialogue in the Transjordan area (cf. Brant, 2011: 164).²⁶⁰⁰ These expressions invite the attention of the reader toward an *implicit dialogue* and the *narratorial abbreviation* strategy of the narrator in vv. 40-42 (see Table 104).

Utterance	Form	Content
Those (many) came to Jesus	Contrasting statement, from negative to positive, recollection statement, fulfillment statement	John performed no sign, but everything that he said about this man was true
(Response of the people)	(Implicit dialogic seams)	(Belief in Jesus)

Table 104: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 10:40-42

The pericope *functions* in the following way. The piece of writing at vv. 40-42 is brought to a strategic intension by the narrator.²⁶⁰¹ The Johannine passages dealing with John the Baptist are now progressively shorter: 1:19-36; 3:22-30; 5:33-35; 10:41.²⁶⁰² At the beginning, the evangelist narrated the ministries of Jesus and John the Baptist simultaneously (1:19-36). An unexpected narration about John the Baptist at 3:22-36 and Jesus' reference to him in 5:33

Köstenberger (2004: 316) says that, "The unit 10:37-39 brings *closure* to the entire chapter, even the section that started with 9:1. In the more immediate context, the phrase 'works of the Father' in 10:37 harks back to the phrase in 10:32 Jews' unbelief would be justified if he did not back up his claims with action". From 9:1 Jesus is always in the temple and its premises; but now he comes out and goes away to the Transjordan area.²⁵⁹⁷ Stibbe (1993: 119; cf. Morris, 1995: 371-2) observes that, "Throughout John's story so far, it has been the setting in which hostility, ignorance and unbelief have been the norm. In the city of Jerusalem, Jesus has ministered against the backcloth of institutional religion which has become wholly opposed to him. In the rural areas of Galilee, Judea, Samaria and Perea (10:40-42), however, the climate has been much more sympathetic". Keener (2003: 830) says that, "The final verses of the section wrap it up, again emphasising the division among the people (9:16) Some wished to seize Jesus (10:39); others believed him because of his works and the Baptist's witness (10:41-42), as Jesus had requested (10:38)".

²⁵⁹⁸ Keener (2003: 830) states that, "Some wished to seize Jesus (10:39); others believed him because of his witness (10:41-42), as Jesus had requested (10:38)".

²⁵⁹⁹ Neyrey (2007: 191; cf. Morris, 1995: 471) says, ". . . he 'remained' there, another indication of a place of friendly relationships". Painter (1993: 364) states that, "In this place Jesus stayed (ἐμείλεν), and many came to him".

²⁶⁰⁰ Neyrey (2007: 191) considers it as a *Geography of Safety*. Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 50; Robertson, 1932: 19.

²⁶⁰¹ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 208) says that, ". . . a short scene (Jesus goes away across the Jordan and stays till those who believe in him: 10:40-42) which functions as a sort of conclusion to John 5-10".

²⁶⁰² Cf. Brown, 1966: 415; Haenchen, 1984: 50; Carson, 1991: 400-1; Stibbe, 1993: 119-20; Lindars, 1972: 119.

is the first instance where John the Baptist is once again in the discussion.²⁶⁰³ This clearly marks the greater importance of John the Baptist in Jesus' ministry. Another reason for introducing John yet another time is to further affirm the superiority and divinity of Jesus. A study about the pericope makes us aware that the statement in v. 41 cannot be treated as an isolated statement; rather, it forms part of an extended dialogue. The community that is connected to the talk-unit in v. 41, the context of the talk,²⁶⁰⁴ implicit narratorial notes, and the general Johannine trend of recapitulation of narratives and dialogues lead the reader toward such a viewpoint. The implied reader of the story is once again led to perceiving the greatness and the truth of Jesus' being the agent of God.

11.3.Meso-Analysis

The episode at 10:22-42 has the following dialogic elements. The first and central slot (10:22-39) is dialogue-driven and it has dialogic tenets like *forensic inquiry*,²⁶⁰⁵ *defence statements*, *Messianic motifs*, and *apologetical aspects* (cf. Smith, 1999: 210-4). It also has sequential features like *question-and-answer*, *accusation-and-response*, and *challenge-and-riposte* (cf. Strachan, 1941: 228; Painter, 1993: 359-63).²⁶⁰⁶ The second slot, as it develops as a narrative-driven pericope (vv. 40-42), has *community-oriented talk* and *implied dialogic elements* (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 119-20; Painter, 1993: 364).²⁶⁰⁷ While the dialogue of the first slot develops predominantly as an *antithetical one*,²⁶⁰⁸ the second slot shows *synonymous* dialogic features. The major (vv. 22-39) and minor (vv. 40-42) slots together reveal the following things: *first*, the forensic and violence-oriented utterances and activities of the Jews over against Jesus (cf. Brant, 2011: 162-3); *second*, Jesus' Messianic claims and his relationship with the Father (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 186-91);²⁶⁰⁹ and

²⁶⁰³ Painter (1993: 364) opines that, "The role of John as witness is reiterated and, in denying that he performed any signs, the evangelist cleverly draws attention to the signs of Jesus and the many who believed because of him, suggesting that 10:40-42 was the original transition to the Passion story". Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 178; Bultmann, 1971: 393-4; Gaebelein, 1936: 193; Carson, 1991: 400-1; Bruce, 1983: 236-7.

²⁶⁰⁴ Jesus' stay with them and their believing nature make the readers think about the possibilities of signs and dialogues in the Transjordan area.

²⁶⁰⁵ Neyrey (2007: 186) considers the entire section chap. 10:22-39 as a "Forensic Process and the Anatomy". Cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 367-77; Maniampil, 2004: 292-4; Morris, 1995: 458-72; Hoskyns, 1947: 389-93; Painter, 1993: 359-66; Lindars, 1972: 366-78; Carson, 1991: 392-400; Robertson, 1932: 183-91.

²⁶⁰⁶ Keener (2003: 1: 825) points out that, "Jesus returns to the image of sheep (10:1-16) in 10:26-27, continuing a dispute from the recent festival of Tabernacles about the true people of God". Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 304-13; Maniampil, 2004: 292-4; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 367-77; Blomberg, 2001: 161-4; Witherington, 1995: 190-5.

²⁶⁰⁷ Keener (2003: 1: 831) further comments that, "Although the crowds must have known some of John's testimony about Jesus (5:33), most of John's denials and confessions in 1:19-36 and 3:27-36 were only to his inquirers or to the disciples; nevertheless, these texts probably functionally supply the reader with what the author wishes to emphasize as the substance of the Baptist's testimony". Cf. Witherington, 1995: 190-5; Haenchen, 1984: 50; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 378-9.

²⁶⁰⁸ Witherington (1995: 190) is of the view that, "The sequel to the good shepherd discourse, in vv. 22-41, is the encounter and dialogue between Jesus and 'the Jews' in Solomon's Portico in the Temple, in which the true sheep are contrasted with the Jews who are not Jesus' sheep".

²⁶⁰⁹ Painter (1993: 361) says that, "In the language of the emissary, applied to Jesus, and the affirmation that the Father is greater, we find evidence of subordination. But in the Father/Son relation and the language of unity (and equality, 5:18) there is evidence of an ontological equality".

third, people's realisation and confirmation of Jesus' claims at the Trans-Jordan area.⁷ episode delineates the vibrancy of the characters by way of their following actions (cf. C 1978: 107-38):

v. 23	καὶ περιεπάτει ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ἐν τῇ στοᾷ τοῦ Σολομῶνος
v. 24	ἐκύκλωσαν οὖν αὐτόν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι
v. 31	Ἐβάστασαν πάλιν λίθους οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἵνα λιθάσωσιν αὐτόν
v. 39a	Ἐζήτουν [οὖν] αὐτόν πάλιν πιάσαι
v. 39b	καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τῆς χειρὸς αὐτῶν
v. 40a	Καὶ ἀπῆλθεν πάλιν πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου
v. 42	καὶ πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν ἐκεῖ

The complimentary feature of the dialogues and the actions dynamically hold the episode as a single whole.²⁶¹¹ According to Tenney (1948: 167), "By the way of contrast, Jesus c questioners unbelievers. 'Yet believe not' appears three times in this context (vv. 25, 26, This trend of the episode prepares the way for a *believing-unbelieving conflict* that is char of the Johannine dialogues (cf. Brant, 2011: 162-3).²⁶¹³ The essence of this enigmatic c thus, features an *antithetical-to-synonymous* mode.²⁶¹⁴ Moreover, the section at 10:22-4 simply be treated as an isolated episode; rather it works in a sequential way.

The Jewish disbelief (vv. 25, 26, 38) is once again unveiled and that factor remains as on surprising elements of the dialogue. Jesus again talks about his works (v. 25; cf. 9:3-4) an his integral relationship with the Father.²⁶¹⁵ Mysterious utterances like "The Father and I

²⁶¹⁰ Quast (1991/1996: 82) says that, "Outside Judea, more people come to believe in him [i.e., Jesus] (10:4; Bruce, 1983: 230-7; Blomberg, 2001: 161-4; Robertson, 1932: 183-91; Stibbe, 1993: 116-20; Keener, 2003: 821-31; Gaebelein, 1936: 186-93.

²⁶¹¹ Barrett (1978: 378) remarks, "Although the material which begins in chap. 7 (when Jesus goes up to t Tabernacles) is plainly a unit as regards thought, John places the conclusion at the Feast of Dedication (v. 22

²⁶¹² Stibbe (1993: 118) states, "In 10:22-39 the perversity of their [i.e., Jews] intense hostility is underlin their lack of faith and their lack of knowledge. Their unbelief is stressed at vv. 25, 26, 27 and 38 (x2) throug pisteuō. Their ignorance is stressed at vv. 27 and 38 (x2) through the verb ginōskō". Cf. Haenchen, 1984: : 1995: 458-72; Bruce, 1983: 230-7; Keener, 2003: 821-31; Gaebelein, 1936: 186-93; Carson, 1991: 392.

²⁶¹³ See the continuous references about belief in Culpepper, 1983: 89, 90, 91, 92, 97, 98, 109, 130, 137, 139 167, 190, 233, and 234.

²⁶¹⁴ While in vv. 22-38 the dialogue is developing in an antithetical mode, in vv. 39-42 it develops in a sy fashion. Dodd (1960: 356) says that, "We should then have in 9:1-10:21 a sequence of narrative, di monologue, dialogue passing into monologue at 10:1 with the emphatic words Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν". D 356) continues saying that, "Similarly in chap. 3 the brief narrative of the visit of Nicodemus introduced which at 3:11 passed into monologue with the same emphatic words, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι. The same for marks the passage from dialogue to monologue in 5:19, though here it is provided with a transition Ἀπεκρίνατο οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς. With the same emphatic words, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, an with no transitional formula, a discourse follows upon an introductory dialogue in 12:24".

²⁶¹⁵ Neyrey (2007: 191) comments, "In 5:19-29, Jesus defended his 'equality with God' by articulating tha him full creative and eschatological powers. John 10 articulates certain aspects of this eschatological powe Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 305-6; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 368-9; Gaebelein, 1936: 186-93; Bultmann, 19 Beasley-Murray, 1987: 174.

(ἐγὼ καὶ ὁ πατὴρ ἓν ἐσμεν, v. 30) and “Father is in me and I am in the Father” (ἐν ἐμοὶ ὁ πατὴρ καὶ ἐγὼ ἐν τῷ πατρὶ, v. 38b) state the essence of Jesus’ dialogue with his interlocutors (cf. Quast, 1991/1996: 81-2; Painter, 1993: 359-63).²⁶¹⁶ He speaks figuratively not only concerning who believe and follow him and their eternal security but also of the unbelieving and their insecurity (cf. vv. 24-38; cf. vv. 39-42). The foundational aspect of Jesus’ oneness with the Father rhetorically invites the reader toward belief in the union of Jesus and the Father (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 186-91). Johannine aspects like “God so loved the world” (3:16) and Jesus’ “laying down of his life for the sheep” (10:11) are persuasively intertwining the reading community into the Father-Son union (cf. Neyrey, 2009: 282-312; see Diagram 43). This mystical aspect is deciphered here by way of the metaphorical-and-dialogical language (cf. Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-35).

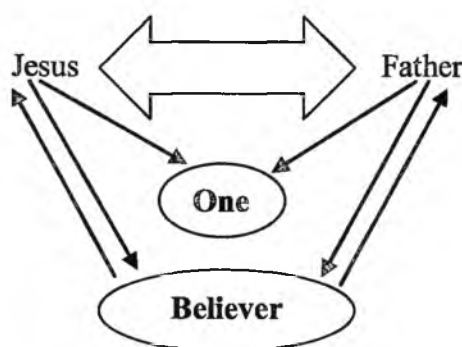


Diagram 43: Oneness aspect of Father, Jesus, and the Believer

As the Jews take the initiative for a forensic inquiry (v. 24b; cf. v. 33), the overarching trend of the dialogue is judicial. But at the same time Jesus’ Messianic claims are at the kernel of the dialogue (cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 824-30). While the dialogue is forensic and violence-centric, it functions around Messianic aspects within the episode (cf. Smith, 1999: 210-4).²⁶¹⁷ Dodd (1960: 355) considers it as “a controversial dialogue between Jesus and ‘the Jews’ upon the theme of his messianic claims; and as before there is a threat to stone him (v. 31) and an unsuccessful attempt to put him under arrest (v. 39)”.²⁶¹⁸ In the episode (vv. 22-42), the narrator’s role is conspicuous in

²⁶¹⁶ For more details about these comments of Jesus, refer to Keener, 2003: 1: 825-30. See Hoskyns, 1947: 389-93; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 371-7; Robertson, 1932: 183-91; Lindars, 1972: 370-6; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 308-13; Bultmann, 1971: 385-94; Haenchen, 1984: 50.

²⁶¹⁷ The episode generally functions around two basic questions: *first*, whether Jesus is truly “Messiah” (10:24)?; and *second*, whether he is “God”/“equal to God” (10:30, 33, 34)? Cf. Neyrey, 1988: 65; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 304-13; Keener, 2003: 821-31; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 173-80; Witherington, 1995: 190-5; Neyrey, 2007: 186-91.

²⁶¹⁸ Beasley-Murray (1987: 178) talks about the dual perspective of the gospel as follows: “Jesus in Jerusalem, in dialogue with Jewish leaders, whose hostility bursts into threatened violence, and the Evangelist with his churches, opposed by leaders of the synagogue because of the claims made on behalf of Jesus”. Culpepper (1983: 94) makes it clearer, “The section closes with Jesus’ declaration that he will lay down his life and take it up again. No one will take it from him. Since this assertion comes at the end of five chapters of escalating hostility, it adds intrigue while limiting the power of the opposition”.

vv. 22-24a, 31, and 39-42 (cf. Tolmie, 1999: 13-25).²⁶¹⁹ The narrator uses quoting formulae in vv. 24a, 25a, 32a, 33a, 34a, and 41a.²⁶²⁰ As his usual tendency, he covers the utterance with narratorial wrappings (cf. Lothe, 2000: 3-10).²⁶²¹ In order to make the narrative reader-friendly, the narrator uses narratorial techniques like suspense, tension-building, implicit naturalization, and abbreviation tendencies profoundly within the episode (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 118-9; Classen, 1993: 44; see Table 105).²⁶²² The dramatic/dialogic aspects of the narrative invite the reader to be involved in a conversation with the narrator of the story (cf. Eco, 1979: 3-40; Court, 1993: 86).²⁶²³

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/
Slot # 1 10:22-39	Content: Jesus' Messianic claims in the midst of Jewish antagonistic attitudes // Form: <i>Forensic, question-and-answer, accusation-and-response, challenge-and-riposte</i> // Function: It has convincing details provided by the narrator, a realistic dialogue of the interlocutors, interesting actions, and texture to the play for further motivation. These features impress the reading community. Through these, a reader will be further convinced to follow a journey of faith 'here' and 'now'	The forensic trend (i.e. through question-and-answer, accusation-and-response, challenge-and-riposte) of the dialogue discloses the Messianic claims of Jesus
Slot # 2 10:40-42	Content: John the Baptist's witness came true in Jesus // Form: <i>Interludinal, positive utterance, implicit dialogue, prophesy to fulfillment</i> // Function: The implied reader of the story is once again convinced of the greatness and the truthfulness of Jesus' being as the agent of God	The implicit/interludinal prophesy-to-fulfillment dialogue confirms that the Baptist's witness came true in Jesus

Table 105: The summary of the dialogue of the eleventh episode

²⁶¹⁹ In vv. 39-42, the only exception is the reported statement of the 'many (people) came to him'. Cf. Hoskyns, 1993: 384-94; Neyrey, 2007: 186-91; Bultmann, 1971: 385-94; Carson, 1991: 391-401; Gaebelein, 1936: 186-193; 116-20.

²⁶²⁰ The quoting formulas used in the episode are: *first*, "So the Jews gathered around him and said to him" (v. 24a); *second*, "Jesus answered . . ." (v. 25a); *third*, "Jesus replied . . ." (v. 32a); *fourth*, "The Jews answered . . ." (v. 33a); *fifth*, "Jesus answered . . ." (v. 34a); and *sixth*, "Many came to him, and they were saying . . ." (v. 41a). Cf. Haenchen, 1984: 49-50; Painter, 1993: 359-66; Strachan, 1941: 227-9; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 172-80.

²⁶²¹ See Blomberg, 2001: 161-4; Stibbe, 1993: 116-20; Gaebelein, 1936: 186-93; Robertson, 1932: 183-193; 229-37; Bultmann, 1971: 385-94; Strachan, 1941: 227-9.

²⁶²² Brant (2011: 163) says that, "Jesus' argument, rather than persuading, provokes the resumption of hostility. 'Therefore they were seeking again to seize him, and he slipped from their hands' (10:39)". Cf. Carson, 1991: 391-401; Robertson, 1932: 183-91; Bultmann, 1971: 385-94; Painter, 1993: 359-66; Hoskyns, 1993: 384-94; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 172-80; Blomberg, 2001: 161-4.

²⁶²³ Also see Parnsenios, 2010: 10-2.

Episode Twelve

A Glory-focused Revelatory Dialogue (11:1-53)

12.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

The narrative of Lazarus, Mary and Martha in 11:1-54 is dynamic as the characters move from one setting to the other (cf. Tolmie, 1999: 105-13; Brant, 2011: 172-3).²⁶²⁴ The event as a whole happens between the Feast of Dedication (10:22) and the Feast of Passover (11:55).²⁶²⁵ Neyrey (2007: 192; cf. Daise, 2007: 19-24; Jones, 1982) states that, “We are between feasts, after Dedication (10:22) and before Passover (11:55)”. Stibbe (1993: 121) on the other hand direct the reader toward the specific context and the mood of the people. Stibbe (cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 835) states that, “Notice the sense of contrast between the first and the seventh sign. The first, in Cana, was conducted in the setting of a rural wedding. There the mood was festive. Now, in the last sign, there is a marked contrast. The context is the aftermath of Lazarus’ death. Here the mood is funeral”. The setting of the narrative is at first Lazarus’ own home in Judea (11:1-2; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 192-3; Brant, 2011: 170-1). The scene moves from Lazarus’ home to the place where Jesus and his disciples are (vv. 3-6).²⁶²⁶ The scene returns back to Lazarus’ home, where *the Jews console Martha and Mary about their brother* and where *Martha hears about the coming of Jesus* (vv. 19-20). The locale of the narrative further moves to the fourth scene delineated differently as follows: first, *outside the village* (v. 30a); second, *at the place where Martha had met Jesus*²⁶²⁷ (v. 30b); third, *the place where Mary saw Jesus* (v. 32a); and fourth, *the place where Jesus was*²⁶²⁸ (v. 32a; cf. Zimmermann, 2008: 75-101). The final setting of the narrative is the graveyard (vv. 38-44). The episode moves beyond the graveyard as the Sanhedrin dialogue (vv. 47-50) and the

²⁶²⁴ Powell (1990: 69; cf. Chatman, 1978: 138-45) says that, “Settings represent that aspect of narrative that provides context for the actions of the characters Since even a bare stage counts as a set, however, it is impossible to imagine a play without any setting at all”.

²⁶²⁵ Stibbe (1993: 122) observes that, “The emplotment of narrative events involves placing them in a temporal sequence. In the case of the Lazarus episode, the first part of the story involves a period of about four days (11:1-16). The second and third parts of the story involve a period of minutes. There is thus a noticeable imbalance between the first part of the narrative, and the second and third parts. This imbalance, interestingly, is true of the Gospel as a whole”.

²⁶²⁶ Seemingly the other side of Jordan, vv. 40-42.

²⁶²⁷ The expression τῷ τόπῳ ὅπου ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ἡ Μάρθα is used in the text.

²⁶²⁸ The expression used in Greek is ὅπου ἦν Ἰησοῦς.

succeeding flee of Jesus to Ephraim (v. 54) are part of the extended episode (cf. Resseguie 87-120; Tolmie, 1999: 105-13).²⁶²⁹

The different settings of the episode can be described as follows: *first*, a *geographical/architectural setting*:²⁶³⁰ Bethany, the village of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, a place two days away from Jerusalem (vv. 1-4, 19-20; cf. Brodie, 1993: 385; Von Wahlde, 2010: 485);²⁶³¹ a *geographical setting*: where Jesus received the message of the sisters, the place where he spent two more days (vv. 5-6; cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 238-9; Keener, 2003: 2; 838-9);²⁶³² a *geographical setting*:²⁶³³ the unidentified location where Martha and Mary met Jesus (vv. 19-20); *fourth*, a *geographical setting*:²⁶³⁴ a scene in which Jesus, Mary, Martha, disciples, and the crowd are moving from 'where Jesus was' to the tomb (vv. 33-37); *fifth*, an *architectural/geographical setting*:²⁶³⁵ the tomb (a cave) with *props* like stones (vv. 38-44; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 105-13); *sixth*, an *architectural/official setting*:²⁶³⁶ the scene of the council (vv. 47-53); and *seventh*, a *geographical/topographical setting*: Ephraim in the region near the wilderness (v. 54; cf. Keener, 1992: 47-9; Chatman, 1978: 138-45).²⁶³⁷ Stibbe (1993: 124; cf. Brodie, 1993: 383-6) concludes that, "at the beginning of the plot, Jesus is outside of Judea. The challenge in vv. 1-16 is to get Jesus to Judea (vv. 8, 16)".²⁶³⁸ This challenge of Jesus resulted in various dramatic movements and different dialogic interactions.

The dialogue is outlined in seven slots (vv. 1-6, 7-16, 17-27, 28-29, 30-37, 38-44, 53[54]).²⁶³⁹ According to Painter (1993: 368; cf. Salier, 2004: 129-41), "The story, told by a narrator who sets the scene and provides continuity, proceeds by means of a number of c

²⁶²⁹ In a strict sense, the Sanhedrin dialogue (vv. 45-53), the secret flee to Ephraim (v. 54), and the *conclusion* or *transition* (vv. 55-57) are not really the parts of the Lazarus story. They are to be considered developments or appendixes attached to the story.

²⁶³⁰ According to the theories suggested by Resseguie (2005: 87, 100-5) the place 'Bethany' can be considered a *geographical setting* and the 'house set up' of Lazarus, Mary and Martha can be an *architectural setting*.

²⁶³¹ Refer Broer (2001: 83-90) for more details about "Knowledge of Palestine in the Fourth Gospel?" (1928: 244; cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 239-41; Helms, 1988: 97-9) opines that, "Bethany, now called (from El-Azir, the Arabic for Lazarus), lies on the south-east slope of Olivet, about two miles from Jerusalem and must be distinguished from the place of the name mentioned at 1:28. John marks this distinction by calling it the village of Mary and her sister Martha".

²⁶³² Though there is no specific mention about the name of the place, it is clearly in view of a geographical location (cf. Chatman, 1978: 138-45; Resseguie, 2005: 87; Powell, 199: 69-83; Tolmie, 1999: 105-13).

²⁶³³ Another unidentified place (cf. Powell, 199: 69-83; Tolmie, 1999: 105-13; Resseguie, 2005: 87-120).

²⁶³⁴ The moving characters travel through some *geographical/topographical* regions (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87-120).

²⁶³⁵ Resseguie (2005: 87, 100; cf. Powell, 199: 69-83) says that, "Architectural settings are human-made structures such as a house, synagogue, temple, pool, tomb, garden, courtyard, sheepfold, praetorium, door, or housetop".

²⁶³⁶ Here, the official proceedings of the Sanhedrin are in view.

²⁶³⁷ Sloyan (1988: 146; cf. Brant, 2011: 170-1) says that, "The *dénouement* of the chapter is brief and its structure is familiar. Jesus withdraws not for safety but for solitude; even more, to keep to the schedule appointed by his mission (cf. 6:15; 10:40)".

²⁶³⁸ In the middle of the plot, Jesus is outside Bethany. At the end of the plot, Jesus is outside the tomb. The narrator tells us that 'Jesus . . . came to the tomb'. By v. 38, the two objects of the focalisation (Jesus and the tomb) are now fully 'in focus' (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 124).

²⁶³⁹ For a more detailed analysis of the story, refer to Zink, 1996: 125-40; Hartenstein, 2007: 214-7; Kruger, 1991: 174-87; Burke, 2003; Neyrey, 2007: 191-207.

(and a few monologues) in which Jesus remains the central figure”. But he (1993: 368; cf. Dodd, 1960: 363-8) continues further by saying that there are at least eleven dialogue units within chapter eleven: *first*, Jesus and the messenger(s) from the sisters (vv. 3-4); *second*, Jesus and his disciples (vv. 7-16); *third*, Jesus and Martha (vv. 20-27); *fourth*, Martha and Mary (v. 28); *fifth*, Mary and Jesus (v. 32); *sixth*, Jesus and the Jews (vv. 34-37, 39); *seventh*, Martha and Jesus (vv. 39-40); *eighth*, Jesus and the Father (vv. 41-42); *ninth*, Jesus and Lazarus (v. 43); *tenth*, the Sanhedrin debate (vv. 47-50; cf. Dodd, 1968: 58-68); and *eleventh*, discussion amongst “the many” in Jerusalem (v. 56). Painter’s division is on the basis of the *character-change* that takes place in the process of story development.²⁶⁴⁰ But the division of the dialogues, we employ here, is based on the *scene-change*²⁶⁴¹ (see Table 106). Thus we count seven dialogic slots and their explanations in the micro-analysis section. Moloney (1998: 325; cf. Gench, 2007: 83-91; Brant, 2011: 170-9) says that, “The narrative begins (vv. 1-6) and ends (vv. 45-54) with Jesus away from Bethany and Jerusalem. The words of Jesus in v. 4 and the comments of Caiaphas and the narrator in vv. 49-52 frame the story of a resurrection that will lead to death”.²⁶⁴² In the episode, the setting of the story develops through ironic situations, dramatic tensions, and dialogic conflicts and resolutions.²⁶⁴³

Slots	Episode 12: John 11:1-53 (See the notes on each slots) ²⁶⁴⁴
Slot # 1 ²⁶⁴⁵ 11:1-6	<i>Mary and Martha’s (indirect) message to Jesus:</i> Κύριε, ἴδε ὃν φιλεῖς ἀσθενεῖ. <i>Jesus’ response:</i> Αὕτη ἡ ἀσθένεια οὐκ ἔστιν πρὸς θάνατον ἀλλ’ ὑπὲρ τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ, ἵνα δοξασθῇ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ δι’ αὐτῆς
Slot # 2 ²⁶⁴⁶ 11:7-16	<i>Jesus (to his disciples):</i> Ἀγωμεν εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν πάλιν <i>Disciples:</i> Παῖβί, νῦν ἐξήτουν σε λιθάσαι οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι, καὶ πάλιν ὑπάγεις ἐκεῖ; <i>Jesus:</i> Οὐχὶ δώδεκα ὥραί εἰσιν τῆς ἡμέρας; ἐάν τις περιπατῇ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, οὐ προσκόπτει, ὅτι τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου τούτου βλέπει· ἐάν δέ τις περιπατῇ ἐν τῇ νυκτί, προσκόπτει, ὅτι τὸ

²⁶⁴⁰ *Character-change* is a dramatic process in which one character enters the scene while the existing one exits or remains. Chatman (1978: 138-41; cf. Powell, 1990: 69; Tolmie, 1999: 105-13) says the demarcation between settings and characters (both of which he calls ‘existents’) is not a simple line but a continuum.

²⁶⁴¹ *Scene-change* is the change from one scene to the other. In John chap. 11, character-change often happens within the scene itself. Brodie (1993: 384; cf. Moloney, 1998: 324-5; Keener, 2003: 835-50; Bruce, 1983: 239-52; Perkins, 1978: 123-30; Barrett, 1978: 387-408) distinguishes the entire episode into six parts: *first*, Lazarus and his sisters—a scene of sickness and love (vv. 1-6); *second*, the disciples; Lazarus dies; Jesus in danger (vv. 7-16); *third*, Martha comes to meet Jesus (vv. 17-27); *fourth*, Mary and Jews come to Jesus; Jesus cries (vv. 28-37); *fifth*, the calling forth of Lazarus (vv. 38-44); and *sixth*, the decision to kill Jesus (vv. 45-53).

²⁶⁴² Dodd (1963: 228) opines that, “the *pericope* of the Rising of Lazarus is unique in this gospel for the way in which it combines narrative and discourse in an inseparable whole”. Dodd (1963: 228) further states that, formally, it is a continuous narrative, the longest in the gospel apart from the passion narrative. As such, it is vivid and dramatic, with much detail which serves to heighten the interest and evoke the reader’s imagination. The lively interchange of dialogue, which is characteristic of this writer’s manner, runs all through. As elsewhere, individual characters are introduced as interlocutors—Thomas and the sisters Mary and Martha—as well as ‘the disciples’ collectively; and ‘the Jews’ appear as a chorus to comment on the action.

²⁶⁴³ For further details about the setting of John 11, refer to Kim, 2011: 55-60.

²⁶⁴⁴ Between the dialogues, narrator provides necessary information to allow the episode to flow. Thus the dialogue and the narratives are intertwined (cf. Brant, 2011: 171; Smith, 1999: 216-32).

²⁶⁴⁵ The dialogue of the first slot functions mostly at the *extended-level*, except the message of the sisters at v. 3 and Jesus’ glorification statement at v. 4.

²⁶⁴⁶ An interweaving of dialogues at the *units* and *extended* levels is obvious in this slot. The narrator’s role as the one who controls the characters within the story is noticeable.

	<p>φῶς οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν αὐτῷ</p> <p><i>Jesus</i> (again to the disciples): Λάζαρος ὁ φίλος ἡμῶν κεκοίμηται· ἀλλὰ πορεύομαι ἵνα ἐξυπνίσω αὐτόν</p> <p><i>Disciples</i>: Κύριε, εἰ κεκοίμηται σωθήσεται</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Λάζαρος ἀπέθανεν, καὶ χαίρω δι' ὑμᾶς ἵνα πιστεύσητε, ὅτι οὐκ ἦμην ἐκεῖ· ἀλλ' ἄγωμεν πρὸς αὐτόν</p> <p><i>Thomas</i> (indirectly; to fellow-disciples): "Ἀγωμεν καὶ ἡμεῖς ἵνα ἀποθάνωμεν μετ' αὐτόν"</p>
Slot # 3 ²⁶⁴⁷ 11:17-27	<p><i>Martha</i> (to Jesus): Κύριε, εἰ ἦς ὧδε οὐκ ἂν ἀπέθανεν ὁ ἀδελφός μου· [ἀλλὰ] καὶ νῦν ὅτι ὅσα ἂν αἰτήσῃ τὸν θεὸν δώσει σοι ὁ θεός</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἀναστήσεται ὁ ἀδελφός σου</p> <p><i>Martha</i>: Οἶδα ὅτι ἀναστήσεται ἐν τῇ ἀναστάσει ἐν τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἐγὼ εἰμι ἡ ἀνάστασις καὶ ἡ ζωή· ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ καὶ ἀποθάνῃ ζήσεται, ὁ ζῶν καὶ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ μὴ ἀποθάνῃ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα· πιστεύεις τοῦτο;</p> <p><i>Martha</i>: Ναὶ κύριε, ἐγὼ πεπίστευκα ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Χριστὸς ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ ὁ εἰς τὸν ἐρχόμενος</p>
Slot # 4 ²⁶⁴⁸ 11:28-29	<p><i>Martha</i> (to Mary): Ὁ διδάσκαλος πάρεστιν καὶ φωνεῖ σε</p>
Slot # 5 ²⁶⁴⁹ 11:30-37	<p><i>Mary</i> (to Jesus): Κύριε, εἰ ἦς ὧδε οὐκ ἂν μου ἀπέθανεν ὁ ἀδελφός</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Ποῦ τεθείκατε αὐτόν;</p> <p><i>Crowd</i>: Κύριε, ἔρχου καὶ ἴδε</p> <p><i>Jews</i>: Ἴδε πῶς ἐφίλει αὐτόν</p> <p><i>Some of them</i>: Οὐκ ἐδύνατο οὗτος ὁ ἀνοίξας τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς τοῦ τυφλοῦ ποιῆσαι ἵνα τὸς μὴ ἀποθάνῃ;</p>
Slot # 6 ²⁶⁵⁰ 11:38-44	<p><i>Jesus</i>: Ἀρατε τὸν λίθον</p> <p><i>Martha</i>: Κύριε, ἥδη ὄζει, τεταρταῖος γάρ ἐστιν</p> <p><i>Jesus</i>: Οὐκ εἰπόν σοι ὅτι ἐὰν πιστεύσῃς ὀψῇ τὴν δόξαν τοῦ θεοῦ;</p> <p><i>Jesus</i> (in prayer): Πάτερ, εὐχαριστῶ σοι ὅτι ἤκουσάς μου. ἐγὼ δὲ ᾔδειν ὅτι πάντοτε ἀκούεις, ἀλλὰ διὰ τὸν ὄχλον τὸν περιεστώτα εἶπον, ἵνα πιστεύσωσιν ὅτι σὺ με ἀπὸ τοῦ νεκροῦ ζῶντες ἐγείνεις</p> <p><i>Jesus</i> (to Lazarus): Λάζαρε, δεῦρο ἕξω</p> <p><i>Jesus</i> (to people): Δύσατε αὐτόν καὶ ἄφετε αὐτὸν ὑπάγειν</p>
Slot # 7 ²⁶⁵¹ 11:45-53	<p><i>Chief priests and Pharisees</i>: Τί ποιοῦμεν ὅτι οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος πολλὰ ποιεῖ σημεῖα</p> <p><i>Caiaphas</i>: Ὁ μὴ ἀποθάνῃ ὑπὲρ τοῦ λαοῦ καὶ μὴ ὅλον τὸ ἔθνος ἀπόληται</p>

Table 106: The dialogue text of 11:1-53

²⁶⁴⁷ The narrator's role is complete in the first half (vv. 17-20) and the internal dialogue is at focus in vv. 21

²⁶⁴⁸ Though the 'mouth-to-ear' statement seems like a monologue, it generates a dialogic effect within the n

²⁶⁴⁹ The dialogue of the story is tri-layered: Mary to Jesus, Jesus and the Jews, and Jews among them narrator puts a lot of information of his own at the beginning (vv. 30-32a) and after the first layer of dialogu

²⁶⁵⁰ The narrator's presence is felt conspicuously in vv. 38, 41a, 43, and 44a.

²⁶⁵¹ The narrator is once again taking control of the discussions. The dialogue at vv. 47b-48 and 49b-50 is part of John's report. The narrator uses the dialogic piece in order to present the discussions more forcefully

12.2. Micro-Analysis

12.2.1. Slot One (11:1-6)

The dialogue of the first slot (vv. 1-6)²⁶⁵² can be considered as an indirect communication as the *sender* and the *receiver* are not meeting face to face. But the narrator adopts direct speech forms of the *sender* and the *receiver* and sustains them within the text (vv. 3a, 4).²⁶⁵³ Neyrey (2007: 193; cf. Sloyan, 1988: 141-2) states, “the narrative begins with communication of information . . . Martha and Mary inform Jesus about Lazarus, presumably through a messenger (11:3)”.²⁶⁵⁴ Though the formulaic Greek word λέγουσαι²⁶⁵⁵ is used (v. 3a) to describe the utterance unit of Martha and Mary, the content and form of it are used to convey a *message* (cf. Painter, 1993: 367-73).²⁶⁵⁶ In v. 4, Jesus’ wordings are expressed by the help of a narratorial verb εἶπεν.

John 11:1-6	Overview
v.1: Ἦν δέ τις ἀσθενῶν, Λάζαρος ἀπὸ Βηθανίας, ἐκ τῆς κώμης Μαρίας καὶ Μάρθας τῆς ἀδελφῆς αὐτῆς. v.2: Ἦν δὲ Μαρία ἡ ἀλείψασα τὸν κύριον μύρῳ καὶ ἐκμάξασα τοὺς πόδας αὐτοῦ ταῖς θριξίν αὐτῆς, ἧς ὁ ἀδελφὸς Λάζαρος ἡσθένει. v.3: ἀπέστειλαν οὖν αἱ ἀδελφαὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν λέγουσαι· κύριε, ἴδε ὃν φιλεῖς ἀσθενεῖ. v.4: ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν· αὕτη ἡ ἀσθένεια οὐκ ἔστιν πρὸς θάνατον ἀλλ’ ὑπὲρ τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ, ἵνα δοξασθῇ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ δι’ αὐτῆς. v.5: ἡγάπα δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὴν Μάρθαν καὶ τὴν ἀδελφὴν αὐτῆς καὶ τὸν Λάζαρον. v.6: ὥς οὖν ἤκουσεν ὅτι ἀσθενεῖ, τότε μὲν ἔμεινεν ἐν ᾧ ἦν τόπω δύο ἡμέρας,	(1) The dialogue in vv. 1-6 is comprised of two utterance units (vv. 3b, 4b); out of the two utterance units, one is of the sisters (v. 3b) and the other is of Jesus (v. 4b); (2) The slot does not contain a direct dialogue between the sisters and Jesus; rather it has a dialogue through the mediation of a messenger (v. 3a); (3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 1-2, 5-6) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 3a, 4a).

Table 107: The dialogue of 11:1-6 within the narratorial framework

²⁶⁵² Sloyan (1988: 141) opines that, “The story begins with an identification of the three Bethany family members through reference to the *next* chapter (v. 2; cf. 12:3). This argues for displacement, or else familiarity on the part of John’s hearers with a synoptic story like that of the anointing at Bethany (cf. Matthew 26:6-13 = Mark 14:3-9 = Luke 7:36-50)”. (Cf. Boice, 1977: 175-89; Keener, 2003: 2: 838-9; Moloney, 1998: 325-6).

²⁶⁵³ Stibbe (1993: 122) says that, “. . . we can see that the Sender figures in the story are the two sisters Mary and Martha, who literally *send* for Jesus. He is the Receiver, and the Object of the narrative ‘commission’ given to him is to bring health and life to their brother Lazarus”.

²⁶⁵⁴ Later (see Neyrey, 2007: 193; cf. Boice, 1977: 175-82; Conway, 1999: 135-50; Sproston North, 2001: 118-9), someone in Bethany tells Martha that Jesus has arrived (11:20), and Martha herself informs Mary of the same (11:28). “Gossip” networks naturally flourished in the ancient world as a typical way of conveying information. Already, we have seen in John how individuals brought messages to others (Andrew to Peter, Philip to Nathanael, 1:35-49; and the Samaritan woman to her village, 4:28-30; see also 20:17-18).

²⁶⁵⁵ λέγουσαι is a derivation of λέγω, which means “say”, “speak”, “tell”, “call”, “assert”, “declare”, “command”, or “order”. The reader may have to understand that the message/information was conveyed through a “messenger”. The passage does not give room for an argument of a written correspondence; but intimation of an oral message can be at view. Cf. Lindars, 1992: 113-29; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 386-8.

²⁶⁵⁶ A written or spoken piece of information that someone send to others or leave for others when one cannot speak to them directly.

The scripture above (vv. 3a-4; see Table 107) shows the way two utterance units form a *double entendre* in the absence of a face-to-face character interaction. The message of the sisters provokes Jesus for his *glory-focused prophetic saying*²⁶⁵⁷ by means of a *double entendre* (v. 4).²⁶⁵⁸ His saying in v. 4 is without referring of a name; but as an answer to the message he received from them (cf. Strachan, 1941: 229-33; Lindars, 1992: 183). The usage ἀλλ' between the first clause (Αὕτη ἡ ἀσθένεια οὐκ ἔστιν πρὸς θάνατον) and the second clause (v. 4; i.e., ὑπὲρ τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ) of his utterance forms a *paradox* (cf. Bennema, 2009: 157-63). The table below (108) shows the way the content of this indirect dialogue is conveyed by means of speech forms and devices.²⁶⁵⁹

The content of the indirect dialogue is twofold: *first*, ἀσθενεῖ of the loved one (v. 3; ὃν φιλοῦν) and Jesus' foresight of Lazarus' escape from the death (cf. Smith, 1999: 218); and *second*, the revelation of God's glory/glory of the Son of God (cf. McGregor, 1928: 244-6; Culpepper, 1983: 140-2).²⁶⁶¹ While the family members consider ἡ ἀσθένεια and the resultant death of Lazarus as their primary concern, Jesus the protagonist views τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ as the *prima factor* to be revealed (cf. Strachan, 1941: 229-33; Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 238-9).²⁶⁶² Jesus' concern on the τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ (glory of God) and δοξασθῆ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ (glorification of the Son of God) decide the prophetic aspect of his utterance (cf. Duke, 1985: 119).²⁶⁶³ Lazarus' being intimating to Jesus and he waits for a chance to reveal God's glory (cf. Painter, 1993: 219; Smith, 1999: 219).²⁶⁶⁴

²⁶⁵⁷ Jesus' saying in v. 4 is not something about a historical fact/event or a present reality. His saying directs readers toward a future-activity (cf. Brodie, 1993: 385; Sproston North, 2001: 41-57; Von Wahlde, 2010: 491, 495-6; Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 238-9; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 386-8).

²⁶⁵⁸ Keener (2003: 2: 839) suggests that, "To the informed, repeated reader of this gospel, the promise of glorification through Lazarus' death constitutes a double entendre: Jesus is glorified because Lazarus' raising directly to Jesus' arrest and passion, by which he is 'glorified' (12:23-24)".

²⁶⁵⁹ Neyrey (2007: 193; cf. Giblin, 1980: 197-211) sees the continuous pattern of "suggestion, negative action, positive action" sequence here.

²⁶⁶⁰ Keener (2003: 2: 839; cf. Witherington, 1995: 200) says that, "The message of Mary and Martha . . . is a request (11:3), as in 2:3; in both cases, Jesus fails to act immediately (2:4; 11:6). If Martha presses her request, the mention of 'whatever' Jesus 'asks' (11:22), she echoes Jesus' mother in 2:5". See Sproston North, 2001: 41-57; Barrett, 1978: 390; Moloney, 1998: 325-6.

²⁶⁶¹ Coloe (2007: 83) states that, "How is it possible for death to occur within a community promised eternal life? The household of Bethany—Martha, Mary, and Lazarus—dramatically portrays this question and the Johannine response".

²⁶⁶² Dodd (1960: 363) opines that, ". . . these dialogues could not stand by themselves. They need the situation to be intelligible, and they not only discuss high themes of Johannine theology, but also promote and explain the narrative". Cf. Burke, 2003: 65; Von Wahlde, 2010: 486; Boice, 1977: 183-9; Conway, 1999: 135-50; Sproston North, 2001: 134-6; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 318-23.

²⁶⁶³ Bultmann (1971: 397) states that correspondingly the explanatory ἵνα δοξασθῇ is meant to affirm that God will also glorify Jesus who, in that he seeks the δόξα of the Father (7:18), at the same time acquires his own glory (8:54), for the δόξα of the Father and the Son form a unity (also see 12:28 and 13:1-5). Carson (1991: 406) states that God's self-disclosure takes place pre-eminently in his Son (cf. 1:14-18; also see Beasley-Murray, 1987: 327; Köstenberger, 2004: 327; Brown, 1986: 431; Larsson, 2001; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 386-8).

²⁶⁶⁴ In the story, Jesus' glory is synonymous with God's glory. Jesus' reveals his own glory; but, in effect, he reveals the glory of his Father (cf. Carson, 1991: 406; Moloney, 1998: 325; Brodie, 1993: 385).

Utterance	Form	Content
Martha & Mary	λέγουσαι, message/information	the loved one, Lazarus, is ill
Jesus	entire utterance is a paradox, forms a prophetic utterance, uses double entendre	Lazarus' illness will not lead to death, it is for God's glory directly/glory of the Son of God indirectly

Table 108: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 11:1-6

Inter-connectedness of the characters and their indirect communication are at view here.²⁶⁶⁵ This indirect dialogue has a form like interlocutors' *information* followed by protagonist's *glory statement* (cf. Brant, 2011: 172). Moloney (1998: 322) puts it, "The story of the resurrection of Lazarus unfolds under the rubric of 11:4".²⁶⁶⁶ John introduces an unusual literary communication and subsequent response over an issue at the outset of the extended dialogic episode.

The message of Martha and Mary in v. 3b is in a precise form, but contains various elements:²⁶⁶⁷ *first*, the addressing κύριε deciphers the *relational aspects*, the connection between those who address and the addressee. The message, Κύριε, ἴδε ὃν φιλεῖς ἀσθενεῖ, communicates well about Jesus' relationship with the family (cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 485; McPolin, 1979: 115-28); *second*, ἴδε²⁶⁶⁸ is used as an intentional attempt of the sisters in order to catch the attention of Jesus; *third*, ὃν is a typical expression as the sisters present Lazarus in relation to Jesus, not in relation to themselves; *fourth*, φιλεῖς is again a connecting link as it reveals the relationship between Jesus and Lazarus (cf. Brant, 2011: 172); and *fifth*, ἀσθενεῖ is used to tell about the current condition of Lazarus and the necessity for the involvement of Jesus (cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 838-40). Jesus visualises τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ behind the curtain of ἡ ἀσθένεια (cf. McGregor, 1928: 244-6; Maniparampil, 2004: 295).²⁶⁶⁹ The following scriptural delineation helps us to understand the content of Jesus more clearly.

Αὕτη ἡ ἀσθένεια οὐκ ἔστιν πρὸς θάνατον (v. 4a)

ἀλλ' ὑπὲρ τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ (v. 4b)

ἵνα δοξασθῇ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ δι' αὐτῆς (v. 4c)

²⁶⁶⁵ Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 325-6; Brown, 1986: 422-3; Moloney, 1998: 322; Von Wahlde, 2010: 489-90.

²⁶⁶⁶ Moloney (1998: 324; cf. Brown, 1986: 430) notices that, "The account as we have it no doubt developed in the pre-Johannine storytelling tradition, but in its present location and literary shape 'the miracle has been made to serve the purposes of Johannine theology'". Brown (1986: 427) comments that, "There is no doubt that the material of chaps. 11-12 comes from Johannine circles, for it abounds in typically Johannine features".

²⁶⁶⁷ For more details about the narrative art and act in the FG, refer to Tovey, 1997: 35-6. Cf. Boice, 1977: 183-9; Conway, 1999: 135-50; Keener, 2003: 838-9; Witherington, 1995: 200-2; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 318.

²⁶⁶⁸ In both NRSV and NIV, this expression does not represent the meaning "look", "listen", or "watch". While NRSV translates "Lord, he whom you love is ill", NIV translates "Lord, the one you love is sick".

²⁶⁶⁹ Keener (2003: 2: 839) says that, "The purpose of Lazarus' sickness was not 'for death' (πρὸς θάνατον, 11:4; applied figuratively in 1 John 5:16 for spiritual death). Instead, the purpose of the sickness is to provide opportunity for God to manifest his glory (11:4; cf. 11:40), as in 9:3; John's teaching that suffering can provide the opportunity for divine intervention foreshadows the significance of Jesus' own death and resurrection".

Though, there is no open-dialogue at view, the communicative quality of the message is di in essence. Jesus' response in v. 4 looks like an implicit statement as there is no mention al hearers. Von Wahlde (2010: 486) states that, "This is one of several verses that show th glorifies God glorifies Jesus also".²⁶⁷⁰ The ἡ ἀσθένεια and death of Lazarus are means glorification of God (directly) and Jesus (indirectly; cf. Moloney, 2005: 220-1).²⁶⁷¹ The f thus, inaugurates the aspect of revelation by means of various micro-forms of utterances a contents.

At the functional level, the indirect dialogue proposes revelatory aspects (cf. Tan, 1993: The λέγουσαι of the sisters about the "illness of the loved one" (v. 3b) provokes Jesus central utterance (v. 4).²⁶⁷² The central utterance of Jesus is *illocutionary*,²⁶⁷³ which also f as a *commissive*²⁶⁷⁴ one (v. 4). Jesus promises that the glory of God will be manifested thr illness, and, at the same time, he takes an obligation to bring that utterance into its fulfill Jesus' utterance is *performative*²⁶⁷⁶ in the following way: *first*, the clause αὕτη ἡ ἀσθεῖ ἔστιν πρὸς θάνατον is one of the choicest *turn-taking*²⁶⁷⁷ initiative and a promise by Jesus: the clause ἀλλ' ὑπὲρ τῆς δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ introduces both a reversal²⁶⁷⁸ and the aftermath; a the final clause ἵνα δοξασθῇ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ δι' αὐτῆς is the proposed result.²⁶⁷⁹ Talbe 171) says that, "The first response of Jesus (vv. 4-6) consists of a word and an act. Jesus s

²⁶⁷⁰ "From another perspective", Von Wahlde (2010: 486) states that, "because the miracle leads to the con of Jesus, it will lead to the second glorification (in the Passion)".

²⁶⁷¹ For more details about the Father (God) and the Son (Jesus) relations, refer to Meyer, 1996: 255-73.

²⁶⁷² At the beginning of the episode, the protagonist points out two things: *first*, the illness is for God's *second*, God's glory is the glory of the Son of God (v. 4; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 140-2; Pryor, 1992: 48).

²⁶⁷³ *Illocutionary act* is a term in linguistics concerning the 'performative' and 'constative' (i.e., relating to c utterance that asserts or states something that can be judged as true or false) utterances. *Constative* utte contrasted with *performative* utterances. It is an utterance that is 'performative' just in case it is issued in th the "doing of an action" (cf. Austin, 1975: 5).

²⁶⁷⁴ *Commissive* utterances are clause categories of offer, warning, threat, swear, volunteering, and promise.

²⁶⁷⁵ According to Austin's original exposition in *How to Do Things With Words*, an illocutionary act is an the performance of which I must make it clear to some other person that the act is performed, and (2) the p of which involves the production of what Austin calls 'conventional consequences' as, e.g., rights, comm obligations (Austin, 1975: 116-7, 121, 139). In order to successfully perform a promise I must make c audience that the act I am performing is a promise, and in the performance of the act I will be unde obligation to do the promised thing: so promising is an illocutionary act in the present sense. See, Alston, 20 1969.

²⁶⁷⁶ A *performative* utterance cannot be said to be either true or false, as a constative utterance might be (1975: 5).

²⁶⁷⁷ Participants in a discourse/dialogue are constrained to provide their utterances in allocated turns, en mechanisms to obtain turns, talk one at a time, and minimise gaps and overlaps. In the story, though Marth speak through the mediation of a messenger, the sequential and turn-taking aspects are effectively wo dynamic way.

²⁶⁷⁸ The use of the expression ἀλλ' introduces a reversal of happening in progress. See the function of th Bruce, 1983: 239-53; Brodie, 1993: 383-405; Umoh, 2000; Sproston North, 2001; Von Wahlde, 2010: 484-

²⁶⁷⁹ Moloney (2005: 219-20) says, "Jesus sets the theological and christological agenda for the events i 'This illness is not unto death; it is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by means c

ultimate outcome of the illness ('not unto death') and its function ('for the glory of God')".²⁶⁸⁰ The first slot proposes that the revelation of God's glory/glory of the Son of God is about to unravel in the immediate future (v. 4).²⁶⁸¹ For Jesus, Lazarus' illness is the means for revealing the glory.²⁶⁸² In the episode, the narrator catches the attention of the reader by way of Jesus' very first utterance of the first slot (v. 4) and leads her/him forward through suspense until the last moment (cf. Booth, 1961: 149-65; Funk, 1988: 28-58). The reader of the dialogue is motivated to know the way God's/Son of God's glory would be manifested through Lazarus' illness (cf. Lincoln, 2000: 15; Lategan, 2009: 457-84).²⁶⁸³ Moreover, questions abound in the reader about the way God's glory and the glory of the Son of God is related and the way the narrator answers those important questions (cf. Eco, 1979: 3-43).²⁶⁸⁴

12.2.2. Slot Two (11:7-16)

Jesus' presentation of a matter before the disciples, firstly in a general sense (vv. 7-10) and subsequently in a particular sense (vv. 11-16),²⁶⁸⁵ and disciples' responses to them are corresponded through a direct dialogue in vv. 7-16.²⁶⁸⁶ The content of the dialogue (vv. 7-16) is primarily about Jesus' journey plans for Lazarus' resurrection (cf. Pryor, 1992: 48; Strachan, 1941: 233-4). Brodie (1993: 390) states that, "The two ideas—of speaking and journeying—are closely interwoven. The journey is towards Judea and toward Lazarus. The speaking is with the

²⁶⁸⁰ Talbert (1992: 171-2) further says that, "He [Jesus] then waits two days longer in the place where he is. He does this in spite of the fact that he loved Lazarus and his sisters. Here one encounters yet again the Johannine motif that Jesus' behavior is determined wholly by God's leading (5:19) and not by human pressures, especially by those closest to him like his mother (2:3-4) or brothers (7:8-9) or beloved friends (11:5). The first response shows both the illness and Jesus' behavior to be under divine control".

²⁶⁸¹ McGregor (1928: 246) says that, "... though the delay certainly serves to heighten the miracle, this is not its primary motive; nor is it to test the faith of the sisters, but rather that Jesus himself may be sure of the Father's will". Cf. Boice, 1977: 183-9; Larsson, 2001; Sproston North, 2001: 134-6; Barrett, 1978: 387-90; Keener, 2003: 839.

²⁶⁸² Esler and Piper (2006: 75-103) consider Lazarus, Martha and Mary as prototypes of those whom Jesus loves. Ball (1996: 102) is of the view that, "This whole episode is set up as a revelation of God's glory in Jesus".

²⁶⁸³ Tovey (1997: 192) says that, "John 11 which may be analysed as follows: 11:1-6 = abstract and orientation; 11:7-42 = complicating action; 11:43-44 = resolution; 11:45-53 = evaluative commentary (and 11:47-53 = coda); 11:54 = coda for this incident". Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 134; Barrett, 1978: 387; Perkins, 1978: 123; Keener, 2003: 839; McPolin, 1979: 115-28.

²⁶⁸⁴ The narrator is successful in creating a dramatic suspense even at the outset of the episode (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-91; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24). Mlakuzhyil (1987: 215) says that, "The literary unity of 11:1-54 is supported by its *dramatic unity and development*. When Jesus hears the news of his friend's sickness, he remains in the place (11:1-6) but after Lazarus' death he decides to go to Bethany at the risk of his own life (11:7-16). Then comes the moving scenes of the meeting of Martha and Mary with Jesus (11:17-37), which build up dramatic tension and expectation in the reader".

²⁶⁸⁵ As Tovey (1997: 192) puts it, here begins the extended section called "complicating action" (vv. 7-42).

²⁶⁸⁶ The dialogue comprises of four sayings of Jesus (vv. 7b, 9-10, 11, and 14-15) and three sayings of the disciples (vv. 8, 12, and 16b). Seven utterance units of the slot shape seven *micro-forms* and they together carry the content of the dialogic slot. Lindars (1992: 191) is of the view that, "the nucleus of the Lazarus story in very much the same form as we have it now, but without the dialogues between Jesus and the disciples (11:4-16) and Martha (11:20-27)". But a careful reading of the extended story makes the reader think that the entire episode is sequentially arranged and also it is emerged from the same literary mind. See Windisch, 1993: 34-8; Moloney, 1998: 326-7.

disciples".²⁶⁸⁷ Jesus' expressions about the urgency to go to Judea (vv. 7b, 9-10, 11, 14-15) during the day (vv. 9-10), journey for awakening (vv. 11, 14-15), intentional absence for the sake of disciples' belief (vv. 14b-15; cf. v. 4), and final invitation to go (v. 15b) are marked by revelatory intentions (cf. McGregor, 1928: 246-7; see Table 109).²⁶⁸⁸

John 11:7-16	Overview
<p>v.7: ἔπειτα μετὰ τοῦτο λέγει τοῖς μαθηταῖς· ἄγωμεν εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν πάλιν.</p> <p>v.8: λέγουσιν αὐτῷ οἱ μαθηταί· ῥαββί, νῦν ἐξήτουν σε λιθάσαι οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι, καὶ πάλιν ὑπάγεις ἐκεῖ;</p> <p>v.9: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς· οὐχὶ δώδεκα ὥραί εἰσιν τῆς ἡμέρας; ἐάν τις περιπατῇ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, οὐ προσκόπτει, ὅτι τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου τοῦτου βλέπει·</p> <p>v.10: ἐάν δέ τις περιπατῇ ἐν τῇ νυκτὶ, προσκόπτει, ὅτι τὸ φῶς οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν αὐτῷ.</p> <p>v.11: Ταῦτα εἶπεν, καὶ μετὰ τοῦτο λέγει αὐτοῖς· Λάζαρος ὁ φίλος ἡμῶν κεκοίμηται· ἀλλὰ πορεύομαι ἵνα ἐξυπνίσω αὐτόν.</p> <p>v.12: εἶπαν οὖν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτῷ· κύριε, εἰ κεκοίμηται σωθήσεται.</p> <p>v.13: εἰρήκει δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς περὶ τοῦ θανάτου αὐτοῦ, ἐκεῖνοι δὲ ἔδοξαν ὅτι περὶ τῆς κοιμήσεως τοῦ ὕπνου λέγει.</p> <p>v.14: τότε οὖν εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς παρρησίᾳ· Λάζαρος ἀπέθανεν,</p> <p>v.15: καὶ χαίρω δι' ὑμᾶς ἵνα πιστεῦσητε, ὅτι οὐκ ἤμην ἐκεῖ· ἀλλὰ ἄγωμεν πρὸς αὐτόν.</p> <p>v.16: εἶπεν οὖν Θωμᾶς ὁ λεγόμενος Δίδυμος τοῖς συμμαθηταῖς· ἄγωμεν καὶ ἡμεῖς ἵνα ἀποθάνωμεν μετ' αὐτοῦ.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 7-16 is comprised of seven utterance units (vv. 7b, 9b-10, 11b, 12b, 14b-15b); out of the seven utterance units, four are by Jesus (vv. 7b, 9b-10, 11b, 14b-15), two are of the disciples (vv. 8b, 12b) and one is of Thomas (v. 16).</p> <p>(2) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 13, 16a) and <i>formal narrative</i> (vv. 7a, 8a, 12a, 14a, 16a).</p>

Table 109: The dialogue of 11:7-16 within the narratorial framework

The disciples' surprised question in v. 8 shows their unwillingness to go to Judea again due to fear of the Jews.²⁶⁸⁹ They attempt to discourage Jesus from the journey (v. 8). Jesus metaphorically speaks to them that the time is up for him to go and perform (cf. Brant, 2004: 97). As the day of the world, he provokes his disciples to work during the limited daytime (vv. 9-10).²⁶⁹⁰ Jesus makes a distinction between those who walk during the day (τις περιπατῇ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ) and those who walk at night (τις περιπατῇ ἐν τῇ νυκτὶ). His question to them at the beginning (v. 9a)

²⁶⁸⁷ Moloney (1998: 327; cf. Keener, 2003: 840-2) also states that, "Jesus told the disciples he was going to wake Lazarus from the sleep of death (vv. 11, 14), in the hope that they might come to faith (v. 15)".

²⁶⁸⁸ Pryor (1992: 48) is of the view that, "The raising of Lazarus, the last of the great public signs of Jesus, may at first be thought to be an anticipation of Jesus' own resurrection. 'Tomb', 'stone', 'take away' (roll away the stone), 'grave sheet' are all common to both accounts".

²⁶⁸⁹ The interrogation, 'Ραββί, νῦν ἐξήτουν σε λιθάσαι οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι, καὶ πάλιν ὑπάγεις ἐκεῖ;', is an expository recollection (cf. 10:31) and it anchors the story within the macro-level dialogue of the gospel. Anchoring is a rhetorical tactic used by the author of the gospel. While the narrative at v. 2 connects with the story at 12:1-8, the statement at v. 8 connects it with the incident in 10:31. The story, thus, maintains both forward and backward tendencies (cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 196; Neyrey, 2007: 194). For Painter (1993: 369) a more likely scenario is that the anointing was taken to be a widely known event to which reference could be made even before it was narrated (cf. Matthew 26:13; Mark 14: 3-9). Stibbe (1993: 122) considers the first two slots together as the plot of the larger story in chap. 11.

²⁶⁹⁰ Strachan (1941: 233) says that, "The full day of twenty-four hours was reckoned from sunset to sunrise; the duration of the hours of light would vary according to the season, actually from 14 hours 12 minutes to 16 hours 12 minutes. Notwithstanding, the actual time of daylight was always regarded as twelve hours, varying in length according to the height of summer the hour would be about twenty minutes longer than in the depth of winter. The proverbial *Are there not twelve hours in the day?*, means that the length of a day or an hour is in God's hand".

dualistic “day” (τῇ ἡμέρᾳ) and “night” (τῇ νυκτὶ) categorisation²⁶⁹¹ are aimed at both the physical journey toward Judea and the spiritual journey of the believing (cf. McPolin, 1979: 115-28; see Table 109).²⁶⁹²

The content of the dialogue is conveyed by means of several micro-literary forms and devices. The dialogue has an *inclusio-imperative*²⁶⁹³ format as it begins with an imperative utterance (v. 7b)²⁶⁹⁴ and ends with another imperative utterance (v. 16b; see Table 109).²⁶⁹⁵ The usage of “ἀγωμεν (v. 7b) at the beginning²⁶⁹⁶ is a *declarative*²⁶⁹⁷ expression in order to invite the disciples for the journey. The protagonist sets an itinerary plan for himself. Jesus’ second saying is a *response* or an *answer* (vv. 9-10)²⁶⁹⁸ to the question of the disciples (v. 8b). His response is comprised of a *rhetorical question*²⁶⁹⁹ at the beginning (v. 9a) and a *metaphorical/proverbial saying*²⁷⁰⁰ at the end (vv. 9b-10; cf. Strachan, 1941: 233). While the expression ἐὰν δέ²⁷⁰¹ (v. 10a) contradicts the previous statement with the latter, the metaphorical saying maintains all the features of an

²⁶⁹¹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 188) considers it as a *simile*. He says (cf. Carson, 1991: 408-9), one can walk in the day without stumbling, because one is aware of the light of this world (the sun) shining on one’s path. For Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 196), the polar oppositions are part of the *antilanguage* of John. Neyrey (2007: 194) states that the entire Lazarus narrative functions as a catechetical experience of both “beloved” disciples (Martha and then Mary) and inner-circle disciples (Thomas and others). The second slot, Neyrey observes, follows a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* pattern. Von Wahlde (2010: 499; cf. Frey, Van der Watt, and Zimmermann, 2006) states that, “This imagery of ‘light’ and ‘darkness’, the ‘world’s light’ (the sun), and the ‘night’ are all born of the dualism characteristic . . . they continue the overarching symbolic structure of light/darkness”.

²⁶⁹² Keener (2003: 2; 840; cf. Brown, 1966: 1: 423) reports that, “. . . the scribes of the Qumran community claimed that the children of righteousness, ruled by the hand of the Prince of Lights, walk in the ways of darkness (1QS 3.20-21). Another early Jewish writer could warn that passions blind one’s soul, so that one moves in the day as if it were night (*T.Jud.* 18:6). Jesus’ metaphor in 11:10, that the light is not ‘in him’, refers to spiritual light, but may play on an image borrowed from some ancient views of science, that light resided in the eye”. Cf. Brodie, 1993: 391; Moloney, 1998: 326-7; Sproston North, 2001: 138-41; Barrett, 1978: 391-4; Conway, 1999: 137-9.

²⁶⁹³ Coloe (2007: 84) notes that, “. . . discourse, vv. 7-16, shaped by the inclusio ‘Let us go’, v. 7; ‘Let us also go’, v. 16”. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 240-2; Brodie, 1993: 385; Von Wahlde, 2010: 486-7, 491-93, 495-9.

²⁶⁹⁴ The expression, “Ἀγωμεν εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν πάλιν, is translated as, “Let us go to Judea again” (cf. Brodie, 1993: 391-2; Strachan, 1941: 233-4; McGregor, 1928: 246-7; Bennema, 2009: 157-63).

²⁶⁹⁵ The expression, “Ἀγωμεν καὶ ἡμεῖς ἵνα ἀποθάνωμεν μετ’ αὐτοῦ, is translated as, “Let us also go that we may die with him”. Bultmann (1971: 400) says that, “Ἀγωμεν takes up once more from v. 7, evokes the response of Thomas (v. 16), and that makes the first motif sound out again: the way they are taking is to lead to death. Thomas’ statement, Bultmann continues, which incidentally is directed not to Jesus but to his companions, is not a warning but signifies a resignation to the fate that threatens alike the disciples and Jesus. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 332-3; Moloney, 1998: 326-7; McGregor, 1928: 246-7; Keener, 2003: 2: 840-2.

²⁶⁹⁶ The second slot begins with Jesus’ saying by the expression λέγει (v. 7; cf. Bruce, 1983: 240-1; Brodie, 1993: 385; Strachan, 1941: 233-4; McGregor, 1928: 246-7).

²⁶⁹⁷ Here it is an oral statement giving “information” about Jesus’ plan. At the same time it includes a connotation of “invitation” to the disciples. In essence, it is an imperative statement.

²⁶⁹⁸ Jesus’ second response is addressed with the verb ἀπεκρίθη (vv. 9-10), which means “responded” or “answered”.

²⁶⁹⁹ The question here maintains *rhetorical nature* as it is asked for efficacy and in itself the answer is embedded. In essence, it is a *counter-question*.

²⁷⁰⁰ Dodd (1963: 228) considers it as a *symbolical saying*. The *dualistic aspects* like “day and night” and “light and darkness” are one of the important features of the saying.

²⁷⁰¹ NRSV translates the expression simply as ‘but’; but NIV follows a plain translation. The expression can also be translated as “but if”.

antithetical parallelism.²⁷⁰² Jesus' third saying (v. 11) is a *double entendre statement* (McGregor, 1928: 246-7). The expression ταῦτα εἶπεν, καὶ μετὰ τοῦτο λέγει αὐτοῖς (v. 11) builds a sequence between the previous saying (vv. 9-10) and the latter one (v. 11). In v. 11, Jesus turns disciples' attention toward a specific issue for the urgency of their journey. Jesus' u about Lazarus' "fallen asleep" (κεκοίμηται) and his going (πορεύομαι) to "awaken" (ἐξυπνί (v. 11) generate misunderstanding among the disciples (vv. 11-12).²⁷⁰⁴ He uses *double ente* 11) and the disciples are in a position of *misunderstanding* (v. 12; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 194; 1988: 142).²⁷⁰⁵ Finally, he clears their misunderstanding by talking about the death of La plain language (vv. 14-15; παρησία,²⁷⁰⁶ cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 840-1; Nicol, 1972: 51).²⁷⁰ way, the slot sustains all the features of a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* dialogu

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	an invitation, call for preparation, an itinerary plan	Journey to Judea again
Disciples	a warning, a question of astonishment, an attempt to stop Jesus' plan	disciples do not like Jesus go to Jude because Jews are attempting to kill J
Jesus	begins with a rhetorical question, proceeds with a metaphor/dualism/ symbolical utterance	time is up for Jesus to go and perform as the light of the world invites disci attention for action
Jesus	double entendre, firm decision to travel	Lazarus is asleep, Jesus is going to a him
Disciples	misunderstanding, attempt to reverse Jesus' journey plan	Lazarus is sleeping; he will be alrigh
Jesus	plain statement, information, purpose statement, invitation	Lazarus is dead, Jesus is not there so disciples may believe, urgency to go
Thomas	statement of oldness, further misunderstanding	going to Judea means going for dyn

Table 110: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 11:7-16

²⁷⁰² For more details about Johannine usage of "antithetical parallelism", refer to Brown, 1986: CXXXII. the saying has dualistic tendencies in its substance.

²⁷⁰³ It translates in NRSV, "after saying this, he told them".

²⁷⁰⁴ Tovey (1997: 217) says that, "... examples of anticipations in the gospel may be found at John 2:22, w death is anticipated; John 6:70, 71, anticipating the betrayal by Judas; John 7:33, 34, where Jesus fores departure; and John 11:11, 23 where the raising of Lazarus is directly referred to prior to the event".

²⁷⁰⁵ Culpepper (1983: 140; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 194; McGregor, 1928: 246-7) says that, "Their misunderstan their failure to relinquish or modify the traditional futuristic eschatology".

²⁷⁰⁶ The term has a wide variety of meanings, like: openness, frankness, boldness, confidence, assurance, a Beasley-Murray (1987: 188; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 194) defines that, "a typical 'Johannine misundersta ambiguous statement of truth is misunderstood by the hearers, which leads to a clarification that open revelation" (Cf. Moloney, 1998: 327; Sproston North, 2001: 138-41; McGregor, 1928: 246-7).

²⁷⁰⁷ Stibbe (1993: 125) observes that, "In chaps. 5-10, it is always the Jews who are the victims of Johanni is they who come off the worst when the narrator uses the literary device of the misunderstanding. However, it is the disciples who manifest misunderstanding. They are portrayed as people who are understand even the most transparent of metaphors".

As a response to Jesus' four sayings, the disciples use the following categories: *first*, their λέγουσιν in v. 8 is with due respect,²⁷⁰⁸ but the form is a *warning question* with evidences from *memory* (10:31; cf. Painter, 1993: 367); *second*, their εἶπεν in v. 12 is *another respectful saying*,²⁷⁰⁹ but a *misunderstanding statement* in essence; and *third*, the εἶπεν of Thomas (v. 16b) is an *assertion of boldness* (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 140-2; Neyrey, 2007: 194; McGregor, 1928: 247), but merged into misunderstanding.²⁷¹⁰ Thomas' imperative utterance in v. 16 determines the climax of the second slot (see Table 110).²⁷¹¹

The diagram²⁷¹² below (see 44) depicts the mechanism of utterance units and the dramatic flow of thought within the slot (cf. Windisch, 1993: 34-8; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24). Jesus uses different forms of speeches, like *invitation* (v. 7), *rhetorical question* (v. 9a), *metaphor* (vv. 9b-10), *double entendre* (v. 11; cf. Witherington, 1995: 202),²⁷¹³ and *plain statement* (vv. 14-15),²⁷¹⁴ in order to convey the content of his message as well as to engage his interlocutors (cf. Painter, 1993: 371). In turn, his interlocutors are in *astonishment* (v. 8), *misunderstanding* (vv. 8, 12, 16; cf. Brant, 2011: 172-3), and in *conflict* with the views of Jesus (vv. 8, 12, 16).²⁷¹⁵ The entire slot moves forward as an *irony*; Jesus invites his interlocutors to be partakers in the life-giving mission and belief ("so that you [they] may believe"; v. 15b), and his interlocutors consider the invitation as one to death ("let us go that we may die with him"; v.16b; cf. Duke, 1985: 59-60, 90-1, 145,

²⁷⁰⁸ They address Jesus with a respectful title 'Παῖσι'.

²⁷⁰⁹ The use of Κύριε is an expression of their respect.

²⁷¹⁰ Thomas' boldness is proved here. Keener (2003: 2: 842) views that, "In v. 16 Thomas ironically understands Jesus correctly: for Jesus to raise Lazarus will cost him his life, and Thomas and the other disciples should (though will not) follow him to the cross". Keener (2003: 2: 842) further says that, "Thomas is thus more courageous than Jesus' brothers (cf. the second person imperative in 7:3), who did not believe in Jesus (7:5). This is surely a positive illustration . . . Thomas, like some heroic characters in other works, is determined to follow . . . But Thomas' determination proves ironic in this gospel and for any readers familiar with the gospel tradition: despite Thomas' apparent willingness to suffer death for the sake of Jesus, Jesus will die alone". But, Brant (2011: 174) considers Thomas' saying as a "piece of sarcasm . . . a propensity for pessimism". See Sproston North, 2001: 138-41.

²⁷¹¹ Three times (11:16; 20:24; 21:2) John tells his readers that the nickname Thomas means "twin" (cf. Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 197; Bruce, 1983: 242; Brodie, 1993: 392; Von Wahlde, 2010: 486-7; Stibbe, 1993: 125). The narrator explains the misunderstanding nature of the disciples (v. 13) and provides a note about the name of Thomas (v. 16a). For more details about Thomas' utterance in v. 16, refer to Charlesworth, 1995: 55-6, 92, 125, 190-1, 234, 243, 247-8, 248n82, 252n96, 253, 263, 273, 289, 314, 316-18, 404. For Charlesworth, the portrayal of Thomas in the FG is much more positive than most exegetes have allowed (cf. Smith, 1999: 221).

²⁷¹² The letters indicate names of characters within the narrative: Jesus (J), Disciples (D), and Thomas (T).

²⁷¹³ Brant (2011: 173) says that, "Jesus uses sleeping and walking as a common metaphor for death and resurrection (see Isa 26:19; Dan 12:2; 1 Cor 15: 6, 20), but the disciples take his words literally . . . (11:12)".

²⁷¹⁴ Witherington (1995: 202) says that, "Jesus must speak plainly to the disciples and explain that Lazarus is in fact dead (v. 14), and from the point of view of the disciples this is a good thing, for they are about witness an event which, if properly understood, could strengthen their faith and act as a parable of what would yet happen to their Master".

²⁷¹⁵ Strachan (1941: 229) considers vv. 7-16 as follows: "The disciples attempt to dissuade Jesus from going to Bethany on account of the danger to His life".

181).²⁷¹⁶ The entire dialogue-slot has a systematical *tri-tier structure* that follows a *beginning-middle-ending* format as in Diagram 44 (see vv. 7-10, 11-15, 16).²⁷¹⁷

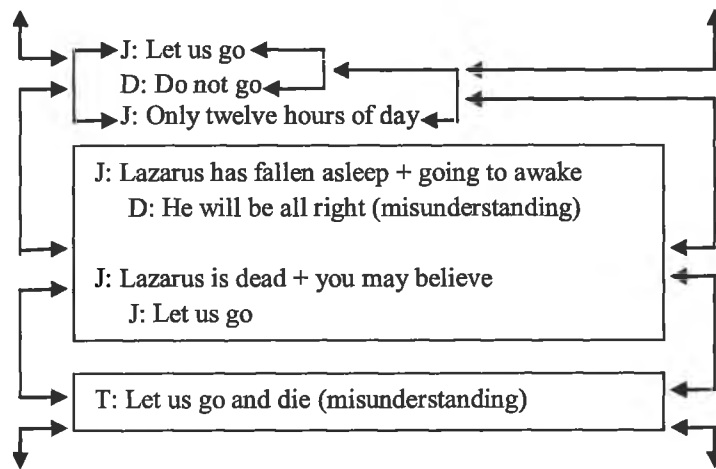


Diagram 44: The dialogic development of the second slot

At the *beginning*, there is a going-and-not going confrontation (vv. 7-10) between interlocutors; in the *middle*, it is Jesus' double entendre, disciples' misunderstanding, and plain statements (vv. 11-15); and at the *end*, there is an open-ended misunderstanding. Although, *micro-forms* like *declaration*, *response/answer*, *metaphor*, *double entendre*, *misunderstanding*, *plain-statement*, *warning*, *memory*, and *bold utterance* are all part of the dialogue, the general trend of the slot is *argumentative/defensive*²⁷¹⁸ in practice and *antithetical* in essence. The disciples accept Jesus as 'Ραββί (v. 8) and Κύριε (v. 12), but the dialogue is an antithetical one. The content and form overlap and contribute to one another when we look at the genre of the dialogue here. Jesus reveals his revelatory plans as the events unfold and moves forward for action.

The function of the dialogue can be outlined as follows. Brodie (1993: 389-90) observes that one of the most important features of this conversation is not its content but simply its occurrence. Its dramatic occurrence is actualised through verbal exchange of the interlocutors. Son

²⁷¹⁶ Moloney (2005: 222) says that, "As Jesus delayed, Lazarus had died in his absence. But this is what Jesus says so that the disciples might come to faith (ἵνα πιστεύσῃτε). The issue of belief emerges as a further driving force in the rhetoric of the narrative".

²⁷¹⁷ Cf. Keener, 2003: 840-2; Barrett, 1978: 391-4; Conway, 1999: 137-9.

²⁷¹⁸ Also it includes "question-and-answer" and "question-and-counter-question" methodologies (See vv. 8-9).

²⁷¹⁹ Brodie (1993: 385) opines that, "Within vv. 1-16 Jesus seems at first (vv. 1-6) to be like the distant God apart, he views death as something which gives glory to God, and his words do not involve him in the conversation". Brodie (1993: 385) says further that, "Yet his love is increasingly revealed (vv. 3, 5), and in the scene (vv. 7-16) he begins to set out, and he enters into a conversation which is not only real but which becomes more open, less parabolic". Bultmann (1971: 398) states that, "If vv. 1-5 have described the situation outward and inward aspects, the dialogue of Jesus with his disciples makes plain the importance of the dialogue in Jesus' resolve to help his friend". Dodd (1963: 231) states that, "dialogue is essential to the production of the action". Cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 490; Keener, 2003: 840-2; Sproston North, 2001: 138-41; Brodie, 1993: 38

utterances of Jesus, like "Ἀγωμεν εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν πάλιν (v. 7b), εἰάν τις περιπατῇ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, οὐ προσκόπτει (v. 9b), πορεύομαι ἵνα ἐξυπνίσω αὐτόν (v. 11b), and ἄγωμεν πρὸς αὐτόν (v. 15b), are attempts to orient his interlocutors (and the reader) toward the fulfillment of the promise-utterance in v. 4.²⁷²⁰ The continued talk of Jesus (from vv. 9-11) with a gap between the two utterances (vv. 10 and 11) exemplifies the failure of *turn-taking* by his interlocutors. The disciples' utterances, like πάλιν ὑπάγεις ἐκεῖ; (v. 8b), σωθήσεται (v. 12b), and ἀποθάνομεν μετ' αὐτοῦ (v. 16b), are antithetical to the forward-looking movements of Jesus.²⁷²¹ Jesus reveals his plans and purposes through engaging in a dialogue with the disciples and they move from one misunderstanding to the other (vv. 12, 16).²⁷²² The disciples' misunderstanding and unbelieving versus Jesus' invitation for journey and subsequent belief, his movements, and the conflicting reactions shape the antithetical nature of the dialogue (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 194; McGregor, 1928: 246-7). The dialogue reveals Jesus' determinative and brave role, his authority to take decisions, disciples' fear and pessimism, and their obligation to follow him. While the reader is able to understand what the narrator communicates with them, the interlocutors of the narrative are in constant misunderstanding (cf. Windisch, 1993: 34-8).²⁷²³ Sproston North (2001: 139) opines that, "Placed here it (i.e., the dialogue; vv. 9-10; cf. 8:12; 12:35, 46) functions to encourage those who continue Jesus' ministry in the world to remain true to their calling in times of peril".²⁷²⁴ Now the reader of the dialogue is ready to travel with Jesus in order to know the way God's glory will be revealed (cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 215; Booth, 1961: 149-65). At the same time, they are challenged by Jesus' utterance about the urgency of praxis within the available span of time (cf. Tan, 1993: 50-89; Eco, 1979: 3-43).

12.2.3. Slot Three (11:17-27)

The setting moves away from the distant location of the previous slots (vv. 1-16) to the premises of Lazarus' tomb (v. 17),²⁷²⁵ and an active dialogue unfolds between Jesus and Martha (vv. 21-

²⁷²⁰ Dodd (1960: 363) is of the view that, "Most significant, apart from the saying of Jesus in v. 4, which governs the whole, are the two relatively self-contained dialogues contained in 11:7-16 and 11:21-27 respectively, both of which deal with important theological themes".

²⁷²¹ Kelly and Moloney (2003: 240) opine that, "While they [the disciples] understand him [Jesus] to be going to Jerusalem to certain death, he sees himself as going to the Father to become the giver of light and life".

²⁷²² Sloyan (1988: 142) comments that, "Jesus utters a cryptic word about sleep and death (vv. 11-15) which is not unlike the usage in the story of Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:9 and par.). The synoptics quite apart, it is the sort of juxtaposition of literal and symbolic that John delights in". For more discussions concerning John and the synoptics, refer to Dunn, 1996: 301-13. See also Keener, 2003: 840-2; Sproston North, 2001: 138-41.

²⁷²³ Brodie (1993: 390) says that, "... there is a certain sense in which, while talking of journeying to Judea and Lazarus, the ones he is really journeying towards are the disciples, trying to reach them, trying to impart to them to face the dark. Lazarus is like the lens through which that reality is communicated". Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 140; Brodie, 1993: 389-92; Barrett, 1978: 390-4; Von Wahlde, 2010: 492; Conway, 1999: 137-9.

²⁷²⁴ Cf. Barrett, 1978: 391-2; Moloney, 1998: 326-7; Conway, 1999: 137-9.

²⁷²⁵ Sloyan (1988: 142) says that, "The colloquy between Jesus and Martha (vv. 21-27) may take place at the edge of the village in the vicinity of the tomb (cf. v. 31)".

27).²⁷²⁶ The dialogue proper of the third slot begins (v. 21) and ends (v. 27) with the utterance of Martha to Jesus. Jesus' two utterances (vv. 23 and 25-26) are placed over against Martha's utterances (vv. 21-22, 24, and 27; cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 842-4; see Table 111).

John 11:17-27	Overview
<p>v.17: Ἐλθὼν οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς εὗρεν αὐτὸν τέσσαρας ἡδὴ ἡμέρας ἔχοντα ἐν τῷ μνημείῳ.</p> <p>v.18: ἦν δὲ ἡ Βηθανία ἐγγὺς τῶν Ἱεροσολύμων ὡς ἀπὸ σταδίων δεκαπέντε.</p> <p>v.19: πολλοὶ δὲ ἐκ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἐληλύθεισαν πρὸς τὴν Μάρθαν καὶ Μαριάμ ἵνα παραμυθῶνται αὐτὰς περὶ τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ.</p> <p>v.20: ἡ οὖν Μάρθα ὡς ἤκουσεν ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ἔρχεται ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ· Μαριάμ δὲ ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ ἔκαθέζετο.</p> <p>v.21: εἶπεν οὖν ἡ Μάρθα πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν· κύριε, εἰ ἦς ὥδε οὐκ ἂν ἀπέθανεν ὁ ἀδελφός μου·</p> <p>v.22: [ἀλλὰ] καὶ νῦν οἶδα ὅτι ὅσα ἂν αἰτήσῃ τὸν θεὸν δώσεις σοι ὁ θεός.</p> <p>v.23: λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἀναστήσεται ὁ ἀδελφός σου.</p> <p>v.24: λέγει αὐτῷ ἡ Μάρθα· οἶδα ὅτι ἀναστήσεται ἐν τῇ ἀναστάσει ἐν τῇ ἑσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ.</p> <p>v.25: εἶπεν αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἐγὼ εἰμι ἡ ἀνάστασις καὶ ἡ ζωή· ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ καὶ ἀποθάνῃ ζήσεται,</p> <p>v.26: καὶ πᾶς ὁ ζῶν καὶ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ μὴ ἀποθάνῃ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. πιστεύεις τοῦτο;</p> <p>v.27: λέγει αὐτῷ· ναὶ κύριε, ἐγὼ πεπίστευκα ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ χριστὸς ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ ὁ εἰς τὸν κόσμον ἐρχόμενος.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue 17-27 is comprised of five utterance units (vv. 21b-22, 23b, 24b, 26, 27b); out of five utterance units, three of Martha (vv. 21b-22, 24b, 27b) and two of Jesus (vv. 23b, 25-26).</p> <p>(2) The narrative slot are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 17-20) and <i>narrative</i> (vv. 21-24a, 25a, 27a).</p>

Table 111: The dialogue of 11:17-27 within the narratorial framework

Martha's first utterance, Κύριε, εἰ ἦς ὥδε οὐκ ἂν ἀπέθανεν ὁ ἀδελφός μου,²⁷²⁷ can be seen as her family's belief as it is repeated by both Martha and Mary (v. 21; cf. 32b).²⁷²⁸ Her utterance reveals her confidence in Jesus (vv. 21-22) that if he had been present Lazarus would not have died (v. 21; cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 843). She also discloses her knowledge about Jesus that "God will do for him whatever he asks" (v. 22). Her *confidence in/knowledge about* Jesus is highlighted by her own utterance in vv. 21-22 (cf. Strachan, 1941: 234).²⁷²⁹ As a response, Jesus assures the resurrection of Lazarus (v. 23). Martha's repeated use of οἶδα (vv. 22, 24) shows her awareness and knowledge concerning the religious ideologies of her time (cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2004: 240).²⁷³⁰ She affirms her faith (based on her οἶδα) in the future apocalyptic resurrection (cf. McGregor, 1928: 248; Stibbe, 1993: 125). As a response to her οἶδα, Jesus declares the saying of the dialogue (vv. 25-26; see Diagram 45). His yet another "I am" saying is in

²⁷²⁶ For more details about the development of the dialogue, refer to McGregor, 1928: 248-9. Also see Sproston, 2001: 141-4; Barrett, 1978: 394-7; Conway, 1999: 139-43; Brodie, 1993: 392-4; Moloney, 1998: 327-9; Burke, 2003: 66-80; Keener, 2003: 842-5.

²⁷²⁷ Translated as "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died". Carson (1991: 411) and Wahlde (2010: 496) states that, "Martha's opening, i.e., *Lord*, is probably to be taken as in v. 3. Her first utterance to Jesus are not a rebuke . . . Rather, they are words of grief and of faith".

²⁷²⁸ Stibbe (1993: 125) says that, "In v. 21 she [Martha] confesses an implicit faith in Jesus as healer by telling him that her brother would not have died if he had been present (v. 21)". Cf. Painter, 1993: 371; Von Wahlde, 2010: 496.

²⁷²⁹ Stibbe (1993: 125; cf. Smith, 1999: 221-23) continues saying that, "She then confesses her faith in Jesus as someone more than just a healer of the sick by saying, 'I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask' (v. 22). She goes on to assert, 'I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day' (v. 24)".

²⁷³⁰ McGregor (1928: 248) says that, "The hope of reunion at the last day is but poor consolation in contrast to the conventional comfort such as she had already had from many condolers". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 394-7; Brodie, 1993: 392-4; Moloney, 1998: 327-9; Boice, 1977: 226-40; Burke, 2003: 66-80; Keener, 2003: 842-5.

(Ἐγὼ εἰμι ἡ ἀνάστασις καὶ ἡ ζωὴ, cf. Coloe, 2007: 88-9; Painter, 1993: 373),²⁷³¹ followed by his own explanation about the connection between “believing” (πιστεύων) and “living” (ζῶν, cf. Dodd, 1960: 365; Coloe, 2007: 89-91; see Diagram 45).²⁷³²



Diagram 45: The ‘I AM Saying’ of Jesus

Within the general framework of the dialogue described above, there is a specific framework that is controlled by three important words and their dynamic interactions: first, *death* (ἀπέθανεν; ἀποθάνῃ; vv. 21, 25b); second, *resurrection* (Ἀναστήσεται, ἀναστήσεται, ἀναστάσει, ἀνάστασις; vv. 23, 24 [two times], 25a); and third, *belief* (πιστεύων; πιστεύων; πιστεύεις; πεπίστευκα; vv. 25b, 26a, 26b, 27a).²⁷³³ The repetitive use of these expressions brings to the notice of the reader clarity of thought of the narrator. The sequence of *death-resurrection-belief* is at the kernel of the dialogue (cf. Kim, 2011: 60-2). Martha’s confession at the end of the slot states her belief that Jesus is the Lord, the Messiah, the Son of God, and the one coming into the world (v. 27; cf. Dodd, 1960: 364-5; Stibbe, 1993: 125).²⁷³⁴ The content of the dialogue, thus, is within the framework of revelation (cf. Painter, 2011: 5-6; Smith, 1999: 221-3). Moloney (1998: 329; cf. Talbert, 1992: 173; Moloney, 2005: 223)²⁷³⁵ states that, “Jesus’ self-revelation (cf. vv. 25-26) will continue so that the promise of v. 4 will be fulfilled”.²⁷³⁶

²⁷³¹ It can be considered as the substance statement, which abbreviates the entire story. Carson (1991: 412) suggests that Jesus has repeatedly mentioned resurrection on the last day (5:21, 25-29; 6:39-40). In this he has been in line with mainstream Judaism. But these references have also insisted that he alone, under the express sanction of the Father, would raise the dead on the last day (cf. Painter, 1993: 371; Köstenberger, 2004: 335-6; Bruce, 1983: 244; Conway, 1999: 139-43). Von Wahlde (2010: 487; cf. Ball, 1996: 101-4; Williams, 2001: 343-52; Talbert, 1992: 173; Wallace, 1996: 327, 359, 621; Kim, 2011: 61) remarks that, “This is one of the author’s elliptical statements. Jesus is not literally ‘the resurrection’. Rather, it should be construed as something like: ‘I am (the source of eternal life that comes to fulfillment in) the Resurrection’”.

²⁷³² Jesus’ statement Ἀναστήσεται ὁ ἀδελφός σου (v. 23) was taken in its ideological sense by Martha as her answer is from her traditional knowledge (v. 24). For more details about the themes of “believing” and “living”, refer to Painter, 2011: 27-42, 71-82.

²⁷³³ See the interconnection of the terminologies “death”, “resurrection”, and “belief”, McGregor, 1928: 248-9. Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 141-4; Barrett, 1978: 394-7; Conway, 1999: 139-43; Brodie, 1993: 392-4; Moloney, 1998: 327-9; Boice, 1977: 226-40; Burke, 2003: 66-80; Keener, 2003: 842-5.

²⁷³⁴ The expression, Ναὶ κύριε, ἐγὼ πεπίστευκα ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Χριστὸς ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ ὁ εἰς τὸν κόσμον ἐρχόμενος, can be translated as “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world”. Neyrey (2007: 196; cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 297) states that, “Her [Martha’s] speech is an expression of unique information reserved for elites in the group. Martha thus joins the circle of other special disciples who have immediate revelations of insider information given to them by Jesus: Nathanael (1:47-50), the Samaritan woman (4:25-26), the man born blind (9:35-38), the ‘woman’ and the beloved disciple (19:26-27), Mary Magdalene (20:16-18), the disciples (20:19-23), and finally Thomas (20:26-28)”.

²⁷³⁵ Ball (1996: 103) says, “Without the claim to be the Resurrection and the Life, the raising of Lazarus would be no more than a spectacular miracle (cf. 4:46-54)”. Cf. Boice, 1977: 226-40; Burke, 2003: 66-80; Keener, 2003: 842.

²⁷³⁶ Windisch (1993: 35) says that, “Martha comes to Jesus, and the beautiful conversation develops, which climaxes both in Jesus’ testimony concerning the resurrection power that is in him and in every believer, and in the woman’s confession of faith”.

The characters of the dialogue use different forms of speech in order to convey the content message to the interlocutors. The *entry in* (vv. 21-22) and *exit from* (v. 27) talk units of frames a *dialogic-inclusion* (with the addressing κύριε in vv. 21 and 27); but Jesus' utterance at the core of the slot (vv. 23, 25-26; cf. Painter, 1993: 373; Smith, 1999: 221-3).²⁷³⁷ Martha εἶπεν (vv. 21-22) begins with a *confidence statement*²⁷³⁸ and ends with an *I know* (οἶδα) statement (cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 240). While her λέγει in v. 24 is yet another *οἶδα statement*, λέγει in v. 27 shows tenets of *acceptance* and *confession* (cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 1). Martha's discussion develops through *confident and οἶδα statements* (vv. 21-22; cf. N 2005: 223), *apocalyptic statement and misunderstanding* (v. 24; cf. Duke, 1985: 145-6), an *affirmation and confession* (v. 27; cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 844; Strachan, 1941: 234-6; see Tat

Utterance	Form	Content
Martha	confident statement, optimism, οἶδα statement	if Jesus was present Lazarus would not have died, knowledge that God will give J whatever he asks
Jesus	prophetic utterance	Lazarus will rise again
Martha	apocalyptic statement, misunderstanding, οἶδα statement	Martha's knowledge about the resurrection of Lazarus on the last day
Jesus	revelatory statement, I am saying, question, invitation to belief	Jesus is the "I am", resurrection, and those who believe in Jesus will never die
Martha	belief affirmation, confession, acceptance	Mary comes to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, one coming into the world

Table 112: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 11:17-27

Jesus' λέγει in v. 23, Ἀναστήσεται ὁ ἀδελφός σου,²⁷⁴⁰ is a *prophetic statement* that leads (v. 24) into *misunderstanding*.²⁷⁴¹ Jesus' central εἶπεν at vv. 25-26 runs through *statement*²⁷⁴² (v. 25a; cf. Williams, 2001: 343-52), a *faith-emphatic pronouncement* (v. 25b) and ends with an *interrogation* (v. 26b).²⁷⁴³ Jesus, here, uses *double entendre* statement, *revelatory utterance*, and *invitation to belief statements* (cf. Painter, 2011: 5-6; see Table 112). The

²⁷³⁷ For more details about the usage of κύριε, refer to Coloe, 2007: 92-4.

²⁷³⁸ Or a "repetitive family-declaration" (cf. v. 32b; cf. Bruce, 1983: 245-6; Brodie, 1993: 392-3; Von Wahlde, 1993: 487, 493-9; McGregor, 1928: 248-9; Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 239-41; Strachan, 1941: 234-6). Coloe (2007) states that, "vv. 21-32, shaped by the *inclusio*, 'Lord, if you had been here my brother would not have died'".

²⁷³⁹ Or a "faith-affirmation" (cf. Bruce, 1983: 245-6; Brodie, 1993: 392-3; Sproston North, 2001: 106-13).

²⁷⁴⁰ Translated as "Your brother will rise again". Carson (1991: 412) sees that v. 23 is a masterpiece of double entendre. At one level Jesus' words *Your brother will rise again* could be taken as no more than a devout attempt to provide Martha with solace by drawing her attention to the resurrection at the end (cf. Painter, 2004: 334-5; Von Wahlde, 2010: 494).

²⁷⁴¹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 190; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 402) states that, "Here is another ambiguous saying which can relate to the recall of Lazarus to life about to take place, or to his resurrection in the end time. For the evangelist will have included both, but for Martha it meant the latter only".

²⁷⁴² Dodd (1960: 365) states that, "The emphasis is upon ἀνάστασις, and, accordingly, the discourse in v. 26 considering is integrally associated with a dramatic scene of resurrection". Cf. Ball, 1996: 101-3; Bruce, 1983: 393-4; McGregor, 1928: 248-9; Smith, 1999: 221-3.

²⁷⁴³ The interrogation here is with a tone of *invitation to belief*.

develops the dialogue by way of an *irony*: while resurrection is present and seen in Jesus, Martha is looking forward for the resurrection on the last day (cf. Culpepper, 1996: 193-207; Muecke, 1970). Whereas the dialogue between Jesus and the disciples is a confrontational/antithetical one, the dialogue between Jesus and Martha centers on the revelatory message, that “Jesus is I am, the resurrection and the life” (vv. 25-26; cf. Williams, 2001: 343-52; Strachan, 1941: 235).

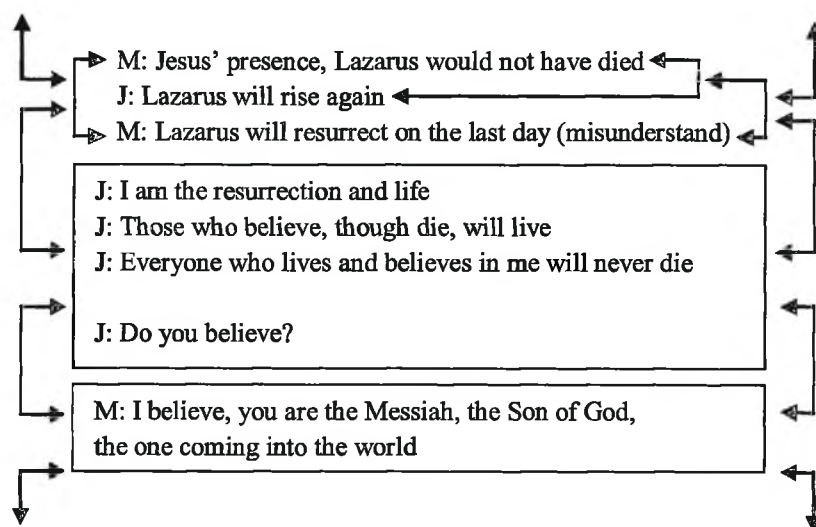


Diagram 46: The dialogic development of the third slot

As in the case of the previous slot, the narrator uses a *tri-tier* (i.e., *beginning-middle-ending*; vv. 21-24, 25-26, 27; see Diagram 46)²⁷⁴⁴ dialogic format here. While the utterances of Martha in vv. 21-22 and 24 and of Jesus in v. 23 form the beginning, the middle and ending are formed by the utterances of Jesus (vv. 25-26) and Martha (v. 27) subsequently. The larger form of the dialogue can be determined from the development of arguments as indicated here: *first*, Martha begins with a confidence statement, Jesus uses a double entendre, and Martha misunderstands (vv. 21-24); *second*, Jesus reveals that he is the resurrection and life, and invites Martha into the belief (vv. 25-26); and *third*, Martha proclaims that Jesus is the Messiah (v. 27; cf. Strachan, 1941: 235; Painter, 1993: 373).²⁷⁴⁵ The above analysis shows that the aspect of revelation is placed at the center of the dialogue in 11:21-27 (cf. Painter, 2011: 5-6; Brant, 2011: 174-5). As in the case of the previous slot, here too the narrator employs the *statement-misunderstanding-clarification formula* as the central feature for the accretion of the dialogue (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 195-6; Duke, 1985: 145-6). Thus the narrator of the story actualises the aspect of self-revelation through characterial argumentation (cf. McPolin, 1979: 115-28).

At the functional level, the dialogue between Jesus and Martha is contributive toward the larger framework of the episode. The narrator places this dialogue at the center of the episode with calculation and intent. The revelation of Jesus' identity as the resurrection and life (vv. 25-26) is

²⁷⁴⁴ In the diagram, Martha is indicated with the letter “M” and Jesus is indicated with the letter “J”.

²⁷⁴⁵ Sloyan (1988: 143) says, “She [Martha] says she believes it because he is ‘the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world’ (v. 27). There has been no faith statement so nearly complete, by a Johannine standard, up to this point in the gospel”. Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 141-44; Barrett, 1978: 394-97; Conway, 1999: 139-43; Brodie, 1993: 392-94; Moloney, 1998: 327-29; Boice, 1977: 226-40; Burke, 2003: 66-80; Keener, 2003: 842-45.

the high point of the episode. Von Wahlde (2010: 494)²⁷⁴⁶ states that, “The literary seam identified by the shift in worldview and by the introduction of the more profound exegesis between Jesus and Martha”. Martha thinks about the resurrection in the Jewish apocalyptic (v. 24) and Jesus reveals his identity as “the resurrection and life” (vv. 25-26; cf. Painter, 1996: 101-4). Jesus uses the self-revelatory language at its peak in vv. 25-26 (cf. Brant, 1992: 173-4).²⁷⁴⁷ As the central pronouncement of the episode, vv. 25-26 unfolds the Johannine formula: *first*, ‘believing’ is synonymous to ‘living’; and *second*, ‘not believing’ is ‘dying’ (Brant, 2011: 174-5).²⁷⁴⁸ In that way, John’s theology is integrally attuned to his thinking of realized eschatology (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 196). Jesus’ utterances, like ἀναστήσεται ὁ ἀδελφεός μου (v. 23), ἐγὼ εἰμι ἡ ἀνάστασις καὶ ἡ ζωὴ (v. 25a) and ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ καὶ ἀποθάνῃ (v. 25b), yet another time reveal the *illocutionary* aspect. In v. 27, the revelation develops from the declaration of the protagonist (vv. 25-26) to the confession of his interlocutor (v. 27; cf. Brant, 2011: 174-5).²⁷⁴⁹ By the end of the slot, the narrator actualises a shift of focus from the Lazarus to the identity of Jesus (vv. 25-27). The worldviews of Jesus and Martha are different not only at the textual level but also between the narrator and the reader. Now the reader can place her/himself into the position of Martha and realize the *here and now* as believing and living.

The Martha-and-Jesus dialogue (vv. 21-27) brings together some of the prominent themes (the resurrection, life, and belief) and christological titles (like Messiah, Son of God, and one who comes into the world) of the gospel (cf. Brant, 2011: 174-5). Martha attempts to interpret from her own knowledge (v. 24), but Jesus reveals that he is the authentic interpreter (vv. 25-26). He perfects the knowledge of his interlocutor is not perfect (vv. 25-26; cf. v. 24). The narrator portrays the unchanging perspectives and character over against his interlocutor’s changing perspective and character. Jesus corrects the misunderstanding of Martha and brings her into a confession of faith (cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 844). Conway (1999: 141; cf. Brant, 2004: 146, 171, 186, 209)²⁷⁵⁰ observes that “. . . the fact that the titles that Martha uses for Jesus appear elsewhere in the Gospel (cf. 10:46; 20:31) suggests that she had indeed understood the essential point, the identity of Jesus”. The reader is gripped into the text by way of characterial utterances within it. On the one

²⁷⁴⁶ Cf. Moloney, 1998: 327-8; Barrett, 1978: 394-7; Keener, 2003: 842-5.

²⁷⁴⁷ McGregor (1928: 248-49) says that, “. . . Jesus replies that ‘the resurrection’ and the ‘life’ which it guarantees are not future but present, not doctrines but facts, not events in time but states conditional upon a *personal relationship*”. See Moloney, 1998: 328; Keener, 2003: 843-4; Brodie, 1993: 392-4.

²⁷⁴⁸ Keener (2003: 843) states that, “The brief dialogue between Jesus and Martha that ensues (11:21-27) for John’s audience the symbolic import of the narrative: Christology realizes eschatology, so that Jesus’ resurrection life in the present era”. Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 195; Bruce, 1983: 243-4; Von Wahlde, 2010: 494.

²⁷⁴⁹ Keener (2003: 844) states that, “Martha’s confession (11:27) is as firm as Peter’s (6:69); the confession of the healed man’s (9:22, 35-38), and now Martha’s (11:27)”.

²⁷⁵⁰ Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 143-4; Barrett, 1978: 396-7; Brodie, 1993: 392-4; Moloney, 1998: 328.

²⁷⁵¹ Sproston North (2001: 143) finds that, “. . . John draws on his community’s confessional material to present Martha as the ideal of Johannine faith”. Cf. Brodie, 1993: 392; Bultmann, 1971: 404; Moloney, 1998: 328; 1978: 396.

reader of the narrative is invited to the belief that the text requires (v. 26b; cf. Eco, 1979: 3-43); on the other hand, the narrative moves forward to show proof as it progresses through the following slots. In this way dialogue between Jesus and Martha contributes for the narratorial progression. The first three slots bring to light three important things through Jesus' utterances: *first*, Lazarus' death is for God's glorification (v. 4); *second*, Jesus the light of the world is one who acts during the daytime (vv. 9-10); and *third*, Jesus reveals his identity as the "I am", the resurrection and life (cf. Williams, 2001: 343-52; Ball, 1996: 101-4).²⁷⁵² Jesus reveals his identity irrespective of his interlocutors' misunderstanding. This revelatory linkage is important to understand the overall function of the episode.²⁷⁵³

12.2.4. Slot Four (11:28-29)

Though Mary was introduced in the first slot (vv. 1-3, 5), her absence was noticed until the narrator talked about her in the third slot (vv. 19-20). Martha says to Mary privately that 'Ο διδάσκαλος πάρεστιν καὶ φωνεῖ σε (v. 28b) and Mary suddenly reacts as she ἡγέρθη ταχὺ καὶ ἦρχετο πρὸς αὐτόν (v. 29; cf. Strachan, 1941: 236; McGregor, 1928: 249).²⁷⁵⁴ Thus Martha's private-talk and Mary's sudden reaction decide the content of the fourth slot (see Table 113).²⁷⁵⁵

John 11:28-29	Overview
v.28: Καὶ τοῦτο εἰποῦσα ἀπηλθεν καὶ ἐφώνησεν Μαριάμ τὴν ἀδελφὴν αὐτῆς λάθρᾳ εἰποῦσα· ὁ διδάσκαλος πάρεστιν καὶ φωνεῖ σε. v.29: ἐκέλην δὲ ὡς ἤκουσεν ἡγέρθη ταχὺ καὶ ἦρχετο πρὸς αὐτόν.	(1) The slot here is movement oriented. It has only one utterance (v. 28b) that is placed between two important movements: Martha's movement from Jesus to Mary (v. 28a); and (2) Mary's movement to Jesus (v. 29). This shows the implicit nature of the dialogue; (2) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 28a, 29) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 28a).

Table 113: The dialogue of 11:28-29 within the narratorial framework

Acceptance of Jesus as 'Ο διδάσκαλος in the family set up of Martha and Mary is disclosed (v. 28b; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 405; Painter, 1993: 370).²⁷⁵⁶ Boice (1977: 234) says that, "At this point—although it is not recorded—Jesus must then have said to Martha, 'Go, call Mary. Ask her

²⁷⁵² Pryor (1992: 48) says that, "We met the claim in the beginning of Jesus' controversies with the Jews, in chap. 5. In fact the same combination of terms/ideas, life and resurrection, are to be found in 5:21 and 11:25 . . . Lazarus is raised to life only to die again, but the action is a sign of the deathless life which faith in and a true confession of Jesus brings".

²⁷⁵³ For more details, refer to McGregor, 1928: 244-57. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 239-245; Brodie, 1993: 383-94; Burke, 2003; Von Wahlde, 2010: 488-502; Stibbe, 1993: 125-6; Moloney, 2005: 225-6.

²⁷⁵⁴ Bultmann (1971: 405) says that, "Passing over everything that is not really necessary, it is related that Martha makes her sister go to Jesus (v. 28). That she does it secretly cannot be due to the Jews in their enmity lying in wait for Jesus; on the contrary they appear largely as a neuter ὄχλος (v. 42), on whom the act of Jesus has varying results (v. 45)". Cf. Brodie, 1993: 394; Perkins, 1978: 125-6; Moloney, 1998: 329; Keener, 2003: 845-6; Von Wahlde, 2010: 499-502, 507; Barrett, 1978: 397; Sproston North, 2001: 145-6; Conway, 1999: 143-4.

²⁷⁵⁵ For more details about Martha and Mary, refer to Sloyan, 1988: 142-4.

²⁷⁵⁶ Carson (1991: 414; cf. Moloney, 1998: 329; Köstenberger, 2004: 336-7) comments that, "The Teacher is a natural way of referring to Jesus for any disciple in the pre-resurrection period".

to come to me”²⁷⁵⁷. Boice’s explanation helps the reader to think about the progression of communication from one level to the other (see Diagram 47).

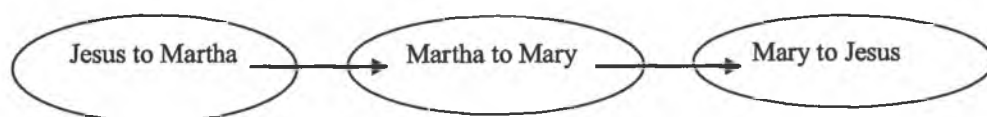


Diagram 47: The implicit dialogic development of the fourth slot

The text describes about Martha’s “went back” (ἀπῆλθεν) to Mary (v. 28a), intimation of a message to her (v. 28b),²⁷⁵⁸ and Mary’s sudden response to the information and her “went up” (v. 29; see Diagram 47). The call-statement (v. 28b) is, thus, stated between the “went back” of Martha (v. 28a) and “went up” of Mary (v. 29).²⁷⁵⁹ Thus the narrator communicates the progression of the narrative, and leads the reader toward the next slot.

Though Jesus is absent in the fourth slot, the information of Martha about his arrival/call (v. 28b) and the reactions of Mary toward him (vv. 29-32) have connecting links (cf. Moloney 2006: 226).²⁷⁶⁰ In another sense, Jesus’ talk with Martha is intimated to the next level in this slot (cf. Strachan, 1941: 236; Brant, 2011: 175).²⁷⁶¹ It has a form of an information (Jesus’ talk to Martha; v. 28a), an intimation (Jesus’ talk to Mary; v. 28b), a sudden reaction (Mary’s quick journey to Jesus; v. 29), and a response (Mary’s talk to Jesus; v. 32b). This development implicitly forms a tri-tier format (see Diagram 47).

Utterance	Form	Content
Martha	private talk, information	Jesus has arrived and he is calling Mary

Table 114: ‘Form’ and ‘Content’ of utterance units in John 11:28-29

Martha’s message here is conveyed as *λάθρα* (i.e., ‘privately’), which means a communication ‘from mouth to ear’ (cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 845-6; see Table 114).²⁷⁶² It focuses (vv. 28-29)²⁷⁶³ on

²⁷⁵⁷ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 333) suggests that, “Everything superfluous, Martha’s parting from Jesus and her instruction from Jesus to tell her sister, is omitted”.

²⁷⁵⁸ Bennema (2009: 147-8; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 197; Keener, 2003: 2: 845; Stibbe, 1993: 125-6) says that the action resembles that of the Samaritan woman, who went back to her fellow-villagers to testify about Jesus, Andrew and Philip, who went and testified to Peter and Nathanael. Martha thus serves as an exemplary disbelief-response and her testimony to Jesus”.

²⁷⁵⁹ Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 199; cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 845; Stibbe, 1993: 125-6) say that, “Martha acts on her belief, indicating she is a member of the core group, and goes to fetch her older sister. The real abbreviation of the slot is seemingly the absence of Jesus”.

²⁷⁶⁰ For more details about the usage of the demonstrative *ἐκεῖνη*, refer to Wallace, 1996: 329.

²⁷⁶¹ Bennema (2009: 149; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 197) says that Martha “successfully testifies to her sister (11:29-32).” Brodie, 1993: 394; Keener, 2003: 845-6; Von Wahlde, 2010: 499-502, 507; Conway, 1999: 143-4; Moloney, 2006: 329; Perkins, 1978: 125-6; Sproston North, 2001: 145-6; Barrett, 1978: 397.

²⁷⁶² It is a kind of “gossip” as Neyrey (2007: 193-9) suggests.

of Jesus. The single saying is a private talk (v. 28; *λάθρα εἰποῦσα*) between Martha and Mary; but it draws significance as it is placed soon after a dialogue between Jesus and Martha (cf. Boice, 1977: 234; Moloney, 2005: 225-6). In vv. 28-29, the expressions like *εἰποῦσα*²⁷⁶⁴ and *ἐφώνησεν* better explain the specific nature of the saying.²⁷⁶⁵ Its single utterance of information (v. 28b) from Martha provokes Mary for an action (v. 29) and a subsequent verbal interaction with Jesus (v. 32b). The fourth slot is an implicit dialogue of Martha to Mary (v. 28b) in the form of information; but it develops dialogical effect within and beyond the single utterance unit.

This slot functions dynamically within the episode. Martha privately informs Mary about the arrival of Jesus and his call for her (v. 28b).²⁷⁶⁶ The *διδάσκαλος* was absent and away; but, now, he is present and *φωνεῖ* (cf. Moloney, 2005: 225-6). By placing this little slot at the centre of the episode, the narrator achieves a turn taking initiative from the vocal level interactions in the previous slots to the praxis level in the latter half of the episode.²⁷⁶⁷ The single utterance of the slot (v. 28b) helps the narrator to progress his narrative toward its climax. Here utterance and action go one after another.²⁷⁶⁸ Martha's private statement is not only responsive from the part of Mary but also persuasive for the reader in order to be attuned within the narrative framework (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 400). Mary's dramatic movement from the home, entry into the central spot, and her utterance (vv. 29-32) add a renewed flavor to the episode and those further lead to the mission of resurrection and life (cf. Parsenios, 2010: 10-2; Elam, 1980: 135-91).²⁷⁶⁹ Though the private talk of Martha is implicit in presentation (v. 28b), the quick response of Mary (v. 29) and her subsequent verbal interaction with Jesus (v. 32b) generate an explicit impact (cf. Smith, 1999:

²⁷⁶³ Bennema (2009: 145; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 197) says that, "Martha's addressing Jesus as 'Teacher' (11:28) and 'Lord' (11:21) reflects the teacher-disciple relationship mentioned in 13:13, showing that she probably considers herself a disciple of Jesus. The phrase that Jesus loves Martha (11:5) may also indicate that she is his disciple (cf. 13:34; 15:9)". Cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 507; Moloney, 1998: 329; Conway, 1999: 143-4; Sproston North, 2001: 145-6; Brodie, 1993: 394-5; Keener, 2003: 845-6; Perkins, 1978: 125-6; Barrett, 1978: 397.

²⁷⁶⁴ The expression is repeated in v. 28.

²⁷⁶⁵ Or a "calling", a "saying", or a "private-talk" (*λάθρα*). Neyrey (Neyrey, 2007: 193) considers it as a "gossip".

²⁷⁶⁶ Moloney (2005: 225-6) says that, "Uses of *διδάσκαλος*, and the transliterated Hebrew-Aramaic *Ραββί*, earlier in the narrative always reflect an expression of belief conditioned by religious and cultural circumstances (see 1:38, 49; 3:2; 4:31; 6:25; 9:2; 11:8)". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 397; Perkins, 1978: 125-6; Conway, 1999: 143-4; Moloney, 1998: 329; Sproston North, 2001: 145-6.

²⁷⁶⁷ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 400) titles vv. 28-44 as "The Raising". It shows the narratorial shift from vv. 1-27 to vv. 28-44. Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 333) says that, "It is part of the evangelist's skill as a narrator to break off a conversation at its climax and change the scene (cf. 4:26 with 4:27; 8:58-59)". Cf. Perkins, 1978: 125-6; Conway, 1999: 143-4; Moloney, 1998: 329; Brodie, 1993: 394-5; Barrett, 1978: 397; Von Wahlde, 2010: 499-502, 507; Sproston North, 2001: 145-6.

²⁷⁶⁸ Smith (1999: 224) says that, "Martha goes back to the house, where the Jews are still offering consolation (vv. 19, 31) and the sisters in effect exchange roles (v. 28)". Cf. Brodie, 1993: 394; Barrett, 1978: 397; Perkins, 1978: 125-6; Conway, 1999: 143-4; Moloney, 1998: 329; Sproston North, 2001: 145-6; Keener, 2003: 845-6.

²⁷⁶⁹ Windisch (1993: 35) says that, "Martha comes and whispers to her sister, 'The Master is here and is calling you'. Mary gets up quickly and goes out (vv. 28-29). The Jews leave the house and follow her; they can be heard saying, 'She is going to the grave, to weep there'". Cf. Keener, 2003: 845-7; Von Wahlde, 2010: 499-502, 507; Conway, 1999: 143-4; Sproston North, 2001: 145-6; Perkins, 1978: 125-6; Moloney, 1998: 329; Barrett, 1978: 397.

224).²⁷⁷⁰ This slot is an important example for the way John's unusual dialogue-driven developments, narrative progression, and turn-taking trends (cf. Brant, 2011: 175). While slots are in progress from the beginning and develop toward the climax, narrator's use of makes better sense for the reader.

12.2.5. Slot Five (11:30-37)

The content of the fifth dialogic slot is made up of five utterance units; one of Mary (v. Culpepper, 1983: 140-2),²⁷⁷¹ one of Jesus (v. 34a),²⁷⁷² and three from the gathering (es Jews; vv. 34b, 36, 37).²⁷⁷³ The narrative begins with the typical Johannine usage οὐπω δὲ Mary's ἡγέρθη ταχὺ καὶ ἤρχετο πρὸς αὐτόν (vv. 29, 31a) and Jews' ἠκολούθησαν αὐτῇ (v. parts of the "rushing" scene (cf. Strachan, 1941: 236-8; Moloney, 2005: 225-30).²⁷⁷⁴ The point of the rushing scene is the house of the Bethany trio and the finishing point is "τὴν οἰκίαν ἣν ἐκεῖ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἔμελλεν ὑπάγειν" (v. 30; τῷ τόπῳ ὅπου ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ἡ Μάρθα Windisch, 1993: 36; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 334).²⁷⁷⁵ The final destination of the slot is τὴν οἰκίαν (vv. 34-44). After introducing the changing setting (v. 30-32a),²⁷⁷⁶ the narrator presents layered speech units (vv. 32b, 33-35, 36-37; see Table 115).²⁷⁷⁷ As usual, the utterance-units of the slot are interspersed into the narratives.

John 11:30-37	Overview
v.30: οὐπω δὲ ἐληλύθει ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς τὴν κώμην, ἀλλ' ἦν ἔτι ἐν τῷ τόπῳ ὅπου ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ἡ Μάρθα. v.31: οἱ οὖν Ἰουδαῖοι οἱ ὄντες μετ' αὐτῆς ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ καὶ παραμυθούμενοι αὐτήν, ἰδόντες τὴν Μαριάμ ὅτι ταχέως ἀνέστη καὶ	(1) The dialogue in vv. 30-37 is composed of five utterance units (vv. 32b, 34a, 36b, 37b); out of the five utterance units, one is of Mary (v. 32b), one is of Jesus (v. 34a), and three are from the gathering (vv. 34b, 36b, 37b).

²⁷⁷⁰ Stibbe (1993: 125-6) says that, "At v. 28, Martha goes back and calls Mary. In performing these actions, she moves from confessor to witness". See Carson, 1991: 415; Brodie, 1993: 394-5; Von Wahlde, 2010: 507.

²⁷⁷¹ Bultmann (1971: 405) comments that, "The decisive verse is v. 32, in which Mary utters the same words that she had also spoken, while Martha's second statement (v. 22) is lacking in Mary's mouth". Cf. Barrett, 1978: 398-401; Keener, 2003: 846; Brodie, 1993: 395-6; Moloney, 1998: 330; Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Conway, 1999: 146-9; McPolin, 1979: 115-28.

²⁷⁷² McGregor (1928: 250-1) observes that, "... the only occasion in the gospel on which Jesus asks for information". Cf. Brodie, 1993: 395-6; Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Barrett, 1978: 398-401; Conway, 1999: 146-9.

²⁷⁷³ Keener (2003: 2: 846) observes: *first*, their invitation to "Come and see" (11:34) is an invitation to witness; *second*, those who have come to mourn with Mary recognise that Jesus cared deeply for Lazarus (11:5); and *third*, that John contrasts some 'others' (11:37) with those who praised his love (11:38) suggests that the latter group, while perhaps recognising his love, doubted his power to have changed the situation. Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 146-4; Brodie, 1993: 395-6; Moloney, 1998: 331; Conway, 1999: 146-9; Barrett, 1978: 398-401.

²⁷⁷⁴ Means, Mary's "getting up quickly and going to Jesus" and the Jews' "following her" (cf. Conway, 1999: 146-9). For more details about the usage οὐπω, refer to Brant, 2004: 38-9.

²⁷⁷⁵ Bennema (2009: 151) says that, "Mary's falling at Jesus' feet and her implicit complaint (11:32), according to the weeping (11:33), probably indicate that she is still grieving, preoccupied with the loss of her brother".

²⁷⁷⁶ Cf. Conway, 1999: 146-9; Barrett, 1978: 398-401; Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Brodie, 1993: 395-6.

²⁷⁷⁷ Neyrey (2007: 198-9; cf. Bennema, 2009: 152) says that, "Jesus' emotions in 11:33 are confusing for two reasons. They are said to be occasioned by Mary's weeping; and the Greek word translated as 'disturbed' primarily means 'insist on something' or to be angry at. This suggests that Jesus shows an aggressive reaction to a grievance". Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Moloney, 1998: 330-1; Keener, 2003: 846-8; Conway, 1999: 146-9; Brant, 2004: 38-9; Barrett, 1978: 398-401.

<p>ἔξηλθεν, ἠκολούθησαν αὐτῇ δόξαντες ὅτι ὑπάγει εἰς τὸ μνημεῖον ἵνα κλαύσῃ ἐκεῖ. v.32: Ἡ οὖν Μαριάμ ὡς ἦλθεν ὅπου ἦν Ἰησοῦς ἰδοῦσα αὐτὸν ἔπασεν αὐτοῦ πρὸς τοὺς πόδας λέγουσα αὐτῷ· κύριε, εἰ ἦς ὧδε οὐκ ἂν μου ἀπέθανεν ὁ ἀδελφός. v.33: Ἰησοῦς οὖν ὡς εἶδεν αὐτὴν κλαίουσαν καὶ τοὺς συνελθόντας αὐτῇ Ἰουδαίους κλαίοντας, ἐνεβριμήσατο τῷ πνεύματι καὶ ἐτάραξεν ἑαυτὸν v.34: καὶ εἶπεν· ποῦ τεθείκατε αὐτόν; λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· κύριε, ἔρχου καὶ ἴδε. v.35: ἔδάκρυσεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς. v.36: ἔλεγον οὖν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι· ἴδε πῶς ἐφίλει αὐτόν. v.37: τινὲς δὲ ἐξ αὐτῶν εἶπαν· οὐκ ἐδύνατο οὗτος ὁ ἀνοίξας τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς τοῦ τυφλοῦ ποιῆσαι ἵνα καὶ οὗτος μὴ ἀποθάνῃ;</p>	<p>34a), one is an unidentified voice (v. 34b, either of the sisters or of the Jews), one is of the Jews (v. 36b), and one is of 'some of them' (v. 37b);</p> <p>(2) The dialogue here develops in two stages: (a) between Jesus and Mary, and the connected movements (vv. 32-35); and (b) among the Jews (vv. 36-37);</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 30-32a, 33, 35) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 32a, 34a, 34b, 36a, 37a).</p>
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Table 115: The dialogue of 11:30-37 within the narratorial framework

Mary's confident statement was about Jesus' absence; he would not have left them (v. 32b; Κύριε, εἰ ἦς ὧδε οὐκ ἂν μου ἀπέθανεν ὁ ἀδελφός, cf. Culpepper, 1983: 140-2; Brant, 2011: 175-6).²⁷⁷⁸ Jesus searches for the tomb (v. 34a) and the people lead him toward the final destination by saying, Κύριε, ἔρχου καὶ ἴδε (v. 34b; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 336).²⁷⁷⁹ The question of Jesus (i.e., Ποῦ τεθείκατε αὐτόν;, v. 34a) motivated the people for leading him from "the place where Martha had met him" to the tomb (cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 401). The Jews express their astonishment at the development of events by saying, ἴδε πῶς ἐφίλει αὐτόν (cf. Gench, 2007: 88-9; Moloney, 2005: 225-30).²⁷⁸⁰ But some others are inquisitive and sceptical (see v. 37, Οὐκ ἐδύνατο οὗτος ὁ ἀνοίξας τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς τοῦ τυφλοῦ ποιῆσαι ἵνα καὶ οὗτος μὴ ἀποθάνῃ;).²⁷⁸¹ The development of the utterance units add flavor to the dramatic, emotional and movement-oriented lead within the narrative (cf. Lindars, 1992: 184; Smith, 1999: 223-5; see Table 115).²⁷⁸² Thus the content of the

²⁷⁷⁸ Neyrey (2007: 199; Brant, 2011: 175-6) opines that, "... there are three interpretations of Jesus' emotions: that of the author, known only by clever insiders; that of the crowd, who see it as testimony to his relationship with 'beloved' Lazarus; and that of cynical critics, who consider it a shame. The literal or surface meaning of words and events is never accurate in the Johannine world". Wallace (1996: 663) comments that, "In the *second class condition* the condition is assumed to be *not* true (contrary to fact). The speaker then states in the apodosis what would have been true had the protasis been true (e.g., εἰ + *past tense* in the *indicative* mood in John 5:46; 11:32)".

²⁷⁷⁹ Bultmann (1971: 407) says that, "Jesus now allows himself to be led to the grave (v. 34). The statement that he wept (v. 35)—where the weeping must be understood as a sign of agitation in the sense of v. 33—has hardly any other purpose than to provoke the utterance of the Jews (vv. 36-37)".

²⁷⁸⁰ Wallace (1996: 548) states that, "The imperfect is frequently used to indicate a *regularly* recurring activity in past time (habitual) or a *state* that continued for some time (general)". See the usage ἐφίλει in v. 36. Smith (1999: 225) puts it, "When the Jews say about Jesus' weeping, 'See how he loved (*phileō*) him', they utter a profound truth What Jesus is about to do is not only a manifestation of his God-given and godlike authority and power (5:19), but also is a manifestation of his love, which is the love of God (3:16; 14:21)".

²⁷⁸¹ Pryor (1992: 47) sees contact of this passage with preceding narratives in the gospel: v. 37 makes specific reference to the healing of the blind man. Cf. Brodie, 1993: 395-6; Moloney, 1998: 329-31; Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Barrett, 1978: 398-401; Keener, 2003: 2: 846-8; Conway, 1999: 146-9.

²⁷⁸² In the fifth slot, the sequence is from Mary to Jesus, Jesus to People, People to Jesus, and People among themselves. At this level, four representative characters are involved in the speech, Mary as a family representative, Jesus as an emissary of God from above, People who directed Jesus as an unidentified group serving at the tomb, and those who involve in a 'dialogue within the dialogue' as a skeptical group from Judaism. The speech of Mary (vv.

dialogue can be determined on the basis of Mary's confidence in Jesus (v. 32b), Jesus' u from a "greatly disturbed" mental position (vv. 33-35), and the Jewish *σχίσμα* and their ar (vv. 36-37).

In the slot, Jesus uses an *inquiry* (v. 34a) and his interlocutors employ *confident statement* (*invitation* (v. 34b), *exclamation* (v. 36), and an *analeptic (skeptical) question* coupled *mockery* (v. 37; cf. Witherington, 1995: 204) in order to advance the mode of t Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 334-7).²⁷⁸³ Mary's running from home (along with the Jews) to J *repetitive confident utterance* (v. 32b; cf. 21) and weeping,²⁷⁸⁴ people's cry along with he internal movements, *inquiry* and weeping, and people's *dialogue* among themselves are he the reader to understand the seams of speech-units and the dramatic developmen interconnected manner (cf. Bennema, 2009: 151-6; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 215-6).²⁷⁸⁵ The change of interlocutors and the unattached developments make the speech-units different structure from the second and the third slots; at the beginning the talk starts as an *implicit* between Jesus and Mary; at the middle it keeps a *question-and-answer* mode between J his interlocutors (cf. Majercik, 1992: 2: 187), and at the end a *dialogue within the dialogu* the Jews (cf. Moloney, 2005: 225-30; Brant, 2011: 175-6).²⁷⁸⁶ The tri-tier *beginning-middle* format of the conversation is kept as follows: *first*, Mary's *repetitive*, confident, and misun utterance creates a movement among her interlocutors (v. 32b); *second*, Jesus is mov internally and externally, and orally exchanges with the gathering (v. 34); and *third*, the cr is moved by Jesus' presence and sentiments and that further creates a platform for : dialogue within the dialogue" (v. 36-37).²⁷⁸⁷ These three parts are held together by the narratives.

32b) is marked with a *confident statement* (v. 32b), People with an *invitation* (v. 34b), and Jews with *exclam question* (vv. 36-37). The only utterance of Jesus (v. 34a) is a *question* and its tone moves from promise to It is again remarkable that Jesus' question falls into the *illocutionary* level.

²⁷⁸³ All these speech forms show the narrator's interest in representative voices of the characters. Cf. Ba 398-401; Conway, 1999: 143-9; Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Von Wahlde, 2010: 504-6; Brodie, 395-6.

²⁷⁸⁴ Strachan (1941: 238) suggests that, "... we have a remarkable instance of the way in which the Stoic apatheia, which the Evangelist antagonises, has yet influenced his conception of the emotion of Jesus".

²⁷⁸⁵ Keener (2003: 2: 845; cf. Moloney, 2005: 225-30) says that, "Mary expresses her faith no less for Martha and in almost identical language (11:32; cf. 11:21). Although Martha is mentioned first in 11:19 first in 11:20, Mary is mentioned first in the opening reference to the two sisters (11:1), as if she is better known community (cf. also her role in Luke 10:39, 42)".

²⁷⁸⁶ The implicit dialogic nature of the talk units is a common phenomenon within the Johannine frame Brodie, 395-6; Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Von Wahlde, 2010: 504-6; Conway, 1999: 143-9.

²⁷⁸⁷ Witherington (1995: 203-4) says that, "... when the Jews are moved to say of Jesus, 'See how he l when Jesus himself begins to weep, there is a certain irony in their words, for while they were right that Lazarus, they were wrong to interpret his tears as an expression of that fact". Cf. Keener, 2003: 845-8; Ba 398-401; Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Conway, 1999: 143-9; Von Wahlde, 2010: 504-6; Brodie, 395-6.

Utterance	Form	Content
Mary	confident statement	if Jesus was present Lazarus would not have died
Jesus	inquiry	the place where Lazarus' body was laid
Jews	Invitation	Jesus was led to the place where Lazarus' body was laid
Jews	exclamation	Jesus' love for Lazarus
Jews (some)	an analeptic question, a mockery	the man who opened the eyes of the blind man is supposed to keep Lazarus from dying

Table 116: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 11:30-37

Mary's utterance at the first level does not move into an explicit dialogue; but it leads to emotional moments and to another level of interaction. Though it is her only utterance within the episode, it is nothing more than a reduplication of what Martha dialogued with Jesus in the third slot (v. 21).²⁷⁸⁸ Johannine rhetoric of repetition is marked herewith in order to reveal the *family-confession*.²⁷⁸⁹ The gesture of the two sisters during the time of their utterances differs: while Martha *ἐῖπεν* her knowledge (v. 21), Mary "knelt at the feet and said to him (Jesus)" (*ἔπεσεν αὐτοῦ πρὸς τοὺς πόδας λέγουσα*) and started to weep (v. 32b; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 334).²⁷⁹⁰ At the middle level, the question of Jesus (v. 34a) is an emotionally-centered one. Jesus' internal movements prompted him to inquire about the place of Lazarus' tomb.²⁷⁹¹ The response of the gathering in v. 34b is an *invitation* to the spot. The scene is a tragic one as the reader saw Mary weeps, the Jews who came with her weep, and the protagonist himself is greatly disturbed, deeply moved, and finally weeps (cf. Witherington, 1995: 203-4; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 215).²⁷⁹² The "mini-dialogue within the dialogue" (vv. 36-37) reveals a division (*σχίσμα*) of opinion about Jesus among the gathering (vv. 36-37), firstly as an *evaluation* (v. 36) and then as a *memory-centered mockery/question* (v. 37; cf. 9:1-41; cf. Painter, 1993: 371-2).²⁷⁹³ On the basis of all the above

²⁷⁸⁸ Cf. Carson, 1991: 415; Moloney, 1998: 340; Köstenberger, 2004: 337; Brown, 1986: 435; Keener, 2003: 2: 845.

²⁷⁸⁹ It is verbatim with Martha's statement at v. 21. Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 200) opine that, "It is likely that Jesus displays indignation and chagrin because Mary has publicly challenged him by questioning whether his actions have been those of a true friend". Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 198; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 192-3; Bultmann, 1971: 405; Brant, 2011: 175-6. For more details about the *family scenes* and dialogues of John 11, refer to Burke, 2003: 80-2. Burke (2003: 80) says that, "Nowhere else in the gospels do we get domestic vignettes of Jesus' life except in Luke 10: 38-42, and John 11:1-5, 17-44 and 12:1-8".

²⁷⁹⁰ Windisch (1993: 37) says that, "From the point of view of style, the story is a dramatically formed *family novella*: three siblings—two sisters, the brother terminally ill; they send for the family friend, the miracle doctor; he comes too late". See Moloney, 1998: 330; Tasker, 1995: 140; Von Wahlde, 2010: 510.

²⁷⁹¹ It means, "Where have you laid him?". Cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 503. Witherington (1995: 204) says that, "Verse 37 is also important because it indicates that the evangelist believes that Jesus' raising of Lazarus is an even more stupendous miracle than giving sight to the blind". Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Moloney, 1998: 330-1.

²⁷⁹² Carson (1991: 415; cf. Burke, 2003: 64-5) states, "Jewish funeral custom dictated that even a poor family was expected to hire at least two flute players and a professional wailing woman (Mishna *Ketuboth* 4:4), and this family was anything but poor (cf. 12: 1-5). In addition to the tears of Mary and her grieving friends, therefore, doubtless there was quite a bit of professional grief. When Jesus saw all this, 'he was outraged in spirit and troubled'".

²⁷⁹³ The narrator uses different verbs like *λέγουσα* (v. 32b), *εῖπεν* (v. 34a), *λέγουσιν* (v. 34b), *ἔλεγον* (v. 36), and *εἶπαν* (v. 37). See Brodie, 1993: 395. Neyrey (2007: 198) observes: The divided reaction in 11: 36-37 provides mixed information: some prove critical, others friendly. Yet all we know of them at this point is a misunderstanding.

factors, the fifth slot (vv. 30-37) can well be described as a slot of agony, utterance movements (cf. Gench, 2007: 88-9).²⁷⁹⁴ At the utterance level, several categories of forms overlap (see Table 116).

At the functional level, the reader can notice the way dramatic movements and utterances complement each other within the slot (cf. Windisch, 1993: 36-40; Elam, 1980: 135-91). In this sense, there is no explicit dialogue in the fifth slot; but mostly implicit dialogic seams in advance the narratorial (cf. Booth, 1961: 149-65).²⁷⁹⁵ The reader of the narrative can identify her/himself with Jesus as he accommodates human sentiments. Jesus reveals his human way of being moved and concerned, weeping, and searching for the tomb (cf. Bultman, 1951: 405-7; Moloney, 2005: 225-30).²⁷⁹⁶ The speech-units develop in a chain-format at three levels (vv. 32b, 34, 36-37), emotional as the characters express their internal feelings (vv. 33, 35), movement oriented as they shift from one locale to another (vv. 29, 32a, 34), and suspending as the tomb is introduced through a 'dialogue within the dialogue' (v. 36; cf. Strachan, 1941; Culpepper, 1983: 140-2).²⁷⁹⁷ The narratorial comments are helpful in interweaving the threads together. Though the factor of argument is comparatively less in the three levels, the utterances having dialogic impact as they influence, provoke, create emotional punch, teach, and lead the interlocutors and the reader into forward looking movements (cf. Keener, 2003: 29; Gench, 2007: 88-9).²⁷⁹⁸ The reader of the episode can recognize the shift of emphasis from dialogic in the first half of the episode to movement oriented utterances in the second half (cf. Eco, 1979: 3-40; Green, 2003: 11-36). In the first half, it was argumentation between the protagonist and his interlocutors received attention;²⁷⁹⁹ but in the second half, the utterances are used in order to strengthen the movements of the characters and to advance the narrative (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 334-7). While the first three slots are revealing a good number of christological themes and aspects, in the fourth and fifth, the reader may not identify such concrete revelatory aspects. John incorporates these literary speech-units in order to advance characterial movements and to build tension within the narrative (cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 38).

²⁷⁹⁴ Stibbe (1993: 122) considers vv. 30-37 as the last slot of the 'middle plot' of the story.

²⁷⁹⁵ The first talk unit is *implicit* (v. 32b); the second and third has a *question-and-answer* format, but does not have an argument (v. 34); and the third shows a division within the community, but does not show a trend of argument (v. 37; Moloney, 2005: 225-30; Brant, 2011: 175-6).

²⁷⁹⁶ Gench (2007: 88) opines that, "These references are unusual in a gospel that places far more emphasis on divinity than his humanity. Nowhere else in John is such depth of feeling attributed to Jesus". Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Smith, 1999: 223-5; Conway, 1999: 143-9; Von Wahlde, 2010: 504-6; Brodie, 1995: 395-6.

²⁷⁹⁷ Maniparampil (2004: 298) talks about Jesus' weeping as follows: "It is more than a psychological reaction; it confronts the reality of death. Jesus has to undergo it to gain victory over it . . . The tomb of Lazarus is not the place of the resuscitation of Lazarus, but precisely because of this sign, Jesus has to be lifted on the cross". Cf. Sproston North, 2001: 146-54; Von Wahlde, 2010: 504-6; Conway, 1999: 143-9.

²⁷⁹⁸ Stibbe (1993: 126) observes, "In portraying Mary's reactions in such an intense and natural way, the evangelist shows a concern to depict characters not only as types of faith response but in the most realistic manner possible".

²⁷⁹⁹ Windisch (1993: 40) says that, "The . . . form of narrative we listed as being specifically Johannine is the connection between narrative and testimony- and dispute-discourse".

12.2.6. Slot Six (11:38-44)

The narrative begins by telling about “greatly disturbed”²⁸⁰⁰ Jesus and his forward looking movement (cf. Lindars, 1992: 183-98; Wallace, 1996: 631). Jesus’ two commandments (vv. 39a and 44b) mark the beginning and end of the slot (cf. McGregor, 1928: 251-3).²⁸⁰¹ There are six talk-units here; five of Jesus (vv. 39a, 40, 41b-42, 43, 44b) and one of Martha (v. 39b; cf. Dodd, 1960: 365). The talk-units within the slot develop through four stages: *first*, between Jesus and Martha (vv. 39-40);²⁸⁰² *second*, Jesus’ prayer addressed to his Father (vv. 41b-42; cf. Sproston North, 2001: 114-8);²⁸⁰³ *third*, Jesus’ cry with a loud voice to Lazarus (v. 43b); and *fourth*, Jesus’ command to the people to unbind Lazarus (v. 44b; cf. Nicol, 1972: 37-9).²⁸⁰⁴

John 11:38-44	Overview
<p>v.38: Ἰησοῦς οὖν πάλιν ἐμβριμώμενος ἐν ἑαυτῷ ἔρχεται εἰς τὸ μνημεῖον· ἦν δὲ σπήλαιον καὶ λίθος ἐπέκειτο ἐπ’ αὐτῷ.</p> <p>v.39: λέγει ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἄρατε τὸν λίθον. λέγει αὐτῷ ἡ ἀδελφὴ τοῦ τετελευτηκότος Μάρθα· κύριε, ἥδη ὄζει, τεταρταῖος γὰρ ἐστίν.</p> <p>v.40: λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· οὐκ εἰπὸν σοι ὅτι ἐὰν πιστεύῃς ὅψῃ τὴν δόξαν τοῦ θεοῦ;</p> <p>v.41: ἤραν οὖν τὸν λίθον. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς ἤρεν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἄνω καὶ εἶπεν· πάτερ, εὐχαριστῶ σοι ὅτι ἤκουσάς μου.</p> <p>v.42: ἐγὼ δὲ ᾔδειν ὅτι πάντοτέ μου ἀκούεις, ἀλλὰ διὰ τὸν ὄχλον τὸν περιεστώτα εἶπον, ἵνα πιστεῦσωσιν ὅτι σὺ με ἀπέστειλας.</p> <p>v.43: καὶ ταῦτα εἰπὼν φωνῇ μεγάλῃ ἐκραύγασεν· Λάζαρε, δεῦρο ἔξω.</p> <p>v.44: ἐξηλθεν ὁ τεθνηκὼς δεδεμένος τοὺς πόδας καὶ τὰς χεῖρας κειρίαις καὶ ἡ ὄψις αὐτοῦ σουδαρίῳ περιεδέδετο. λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· λύσατε αὐτὸν καὶ ἄφετε αὐτὸν ὑπάγειν.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 38-44 is comprised of six utterance units (vv. 39a, 39b, 40b, 41b-42, 43b, 44b); out of the six utterance units, five are of Jesus (vv. 39a, 40b, 41b-42, 43b, 44b) and one is of Martha (v. 39b);</p> <p>(2) The narrator concentrates mostly on the utterances of Jesus as s/he reports five of his speech units;</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 38, 41a, 44a) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 39a, 39b, 40a, 41a, 43a, 44b).</p>

Table 117: The dialogue of 11:38-44 within the narratorial framework

At the first stage, Jesus dialogues with Martha a second time.²⁸⁰⁵ As a response to Jesus’ order (v. 39a; “Ἀρατε τὸν λίθον”), Martha appears another time with her evidentialist argument (v. 39b; Κύριε, ἥδη ὄζει, τεταρταῖος γὰρ ἐστίν, cf. Strachan, 1941: 239-42; Coloe, 2007: 85).²⁸⁰⁶ Though Martha declared her belief in Jesus earlier, as the Messiah, the Son of God, and the one coming

²⁸⁰⁰ The expression here is ἐμβριμώμενος ἐν ἑαυτῷ, which means ‘being moved within himself’. Bultmann (1971: 407) opines that, “Jesus—again in the anger over that (the) faithless—comes to the grave”. Carson (1991: 416-7) considers it as a ‘display of emotion’. Cf. Moloney, 1998: 340-1; Smith, 1999: 223-5.

²⁸⁰¹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 195) observes the ‘greatest economy of words’ all through the narratives.

²⁸⁰² Painter (1993: 372) puts it, “The objection of Martha (11:39) confirms that she had not comprehended Jesus’ words (11:25-26)”. Cf. Beirne, 2003: 129; Kremer, 1985; Bruce, 1983: 247-8; Talbert, 1992: 175-6.

²⁸⁰³ Neyrey (2007: 201) says that, “In Jesus’ prayer, only his relationship with God is in view”.

²⁸⁰⁴ Tovey (1997: 192) considers vv. 43-44 as the ‘solution’ section of the larger Lazarus narrative.

²⁸⁰⁵ After the dialogue at the third slot; cf. vv. 21-27.

²⁸⁰⁶ Her response reveals another time that she prefers to speak knowledgeably and evidentially. The details in her talk, like “there is a stench because he has been dead for four days”, prove that she was very keen in observing and presenting the evidences. The narrator strategically anchors Jesus’ response at v. 40 with the dialogue at the third slot (cf. vv. 25-26).

into the world (v. 27), her conversation with Jesus here reveals that it was partial in essence. At the end of the first stage, the narrator communicates with the reader about the act of rolling away the stone (v. 41a; ἤρᾱν οὖν τὸν λίθον, cf. Resseguie, 2005: 100-5; Brant, 2011: 176). The second stage is formed by Jesus' prayer to the Father (vv. 41b-42; see Diagram 48).²⁸⁰ This prayer is an intercessory one, primarily with an intention to generate belief in the crowd (cf. Dodd, 1972: 37-9; McPolin, 1979: 115-28).²⁸¹⁰

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus	command	removing the stone
Martha	unbelief statement, evidentialist utterance	there is a stench, he has been dead for days
Jesus	question	Because Martha was not believing, she was not able to see the glory of God
Jesus	prayer	Father heard/hears Jesus, and the Father is requested to reveal Jesus so that they may believe
Jesus	loud utterance, a command	Resurrection of Lazarus
Jesus	an order	unbinding Lazarus so that he may be

Table 118: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 11:38-44

The content of the talk-units is primarily dependent on Jesus' answer to Martha (v. 40; cf. Brant, 2011: 176) and his prayer (vv. 41b-42) as they remain as the important utterance-units of Jesus' response to Martha. His response to Martha is in order to point out Martha's lack of belief as a hindrance for her to see the glory of God (v. 40). After the theme glory of God was firstly introduced in v. 4, another time in v. 40 (cf. Keener, 2003: 2; 848-50; Pryor, 1992: 48).²⁸¹¹ Three themes are emphasised through Jesus' prayer (vv. 41b-42): *first*, the establishment of close relationship between Father and Jesus; *second*, Father as who deserves thanks as having heard of Jesus, the one who hears always; and *third*, the prayer is for the sake of revealing glory so that they may believe that Jesus is the sent one of God (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 408-9; Neyrey, 2000: 100).

²⁸⁰⁷ In John's gospel, belief in Jesus enables the interlocutors to see the glory of God. At this point, Martha falls short of faith in Jesus. Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 201) define, "'Faith' is the trust of an in-group. Belonging to the Jesus group will result in seeing God's glory". Carson (1991: 417) considers Jesus' question, *do not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?* rhetorical and takes as a summary of what is promised in vv. 23-26. Cf. Moloney, 1998: 340-2; Köstenberger, 2004: 343.

²⁸⁰⁸ McGregor (1928: 251) says that, "The cave-tomb would be either natural (Gen 23:9) or artificial (Matt 23:17) with a boulder at the entrance to keep out wild animals. This would be placed against an aperture facing the east rather than as a lid on the top of a pit (cf. 20:1; Mark 16:3)".

²⁸⁰⁹ In the diagram, Jesus is 'J' and Martha is 'M'.

²⁸¹⁰ McGregor (1928: 252; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 339-40) says that, "The verse undoubtedly suggests theatricality in Jesus' prayer . . . John's purpose is to insist that the power Christ exercises is God's power. Christ audibly invokes God as his ally; if then the miracle fails, let him be acknowledged to be an impostor; if he succeeds, let him be hailed as God's plenipotentiary".

²⁸¹¹ Dodd (1960: 367; cf. Witherington, 1995: 204) says that, ". . . the summons to go to Judea, in order that the glory of God may be manifested in an act of ζωοποίησις (11:4, 40), is also a summons to face death; and so the disciples are warned". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 247-8; Beirne, 2003: 129-30; Kremer, 1985; Nicol, 1972: 37-9.

1).²⁸¹² These two utterances (one as a response to Martha and another as a prayer; vv. 40, 41b-42) recapitulate the entire theme and purpose of the episode (cf. McGregor, 1928: 252).²⁸¹³ Soon after the prayer Jesus enters into the third stage of the speech through his cry with a loud voice to Lazarus (v. 43b).²⁸¹⁴ Now the prayer is answered and Jesus enters the fourth stage by telling the crowd Λύσατε αὐτὸν καὶ ἄφετε αὐτὸν ὑπάγειν (cf. Painter, 1993: 372; Ball, 1996: 102).²⁸¹⁵ All through the four stages, Jesus stands out as the lead-talker, except the single utterance by Martha at v. 39b.

The characters of the narrative use several forms of speech in order to communicate their content (see Table 118). As in the case of the second and the third slots (and also the fifth slot), here the narrator plots the talk-units by the help of another *beginning-middle-ending* sequence (vv. 39-40, 41-42, 43-44; see Diagram 48). Jesus begins the conversation (v. 39) with an *authoritative statement* in the form of a *command*.²⁸¹⁶ Martha's response in v. 39b reveals that she is an *evidentialist*²⁸¹⁷ and that her *faith-affirmation* in v. 27 was not a complete one (cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 848-50).²⁸¹⁸ The dialogue between Jesus and Martha is framed by Jesus' *command* to remove the stone (v. 39a), Martha's unbelief is reflected through an *evidentialist statement* about the stench and the span of days (v. 39b), and Jesus' *question* about her unbelief that hinders her to see the glory of God (v. 40; cf. Painter, 1993: 371-2).²⁸¹⁹ The *prayer* at vv. 41b-42 serves at another level. It is a communication from the downward-world to the upward-world, a prayer in form²⁸²⁰ and

²⁸¹² Painter (1992: 372) comments that, "According to the narrator the actions and words of Jesus that follow were for the benefit of the crowd that was present, 'that they may believe that you sent me', 11:42. The manner of the raising of Lazarus was staged by Jesus to reveal his relation to the Father". Cf. Kremer, 1985; Beirne, 2003: 129-30.

²⁸¹³ Brant (2011: 176; cf. Segovia, 2007: 182; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 339-40) opines that, "Jesus then prays for the first of three times. All three prayers use the address Father (see 12:27-28; 17:1-25), a feature common to Jewish prayers in which the afflicted or persecuted appeal for mercy or forgiveness (e.g., *Jos. Asen.* 12.8-15; *Sir* 23:1; *Mark* 14:36), but this is where similarities end".

²⁸¹⁴ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 215; cf. Moloney, 2005: 230; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 339-40) says that, "The climax is reached when Jesus raises the dead Lazarus to life again by a mere word (11:38-44). The consequences of this miraculous action are described in 11:45-53. (Some believe in him, while others report the matter to the Pharisees, and the Sanhedrin decides to put to death Jesus who raised a dead man to life!)"

²⁸¹⁵ Many commentators cite Basil (c. 330-379 CE), who, supposing that the graveclothes bound Lazarus so tightly that he could not possibly, by himself, emerge from the tomb, speaks of 'a miracle within a miracle'. See Carson, 1991: 418; Moloney, 1998: 341; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 338-40.

²⁸¹⁶ It can also be considered as an "order". Cf. Bruce, 1983: 247-8.

²⁸¹⁷ She stands here as one who provides evidences or details. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 247-8.

²⁸¹⁸ McGregor (1928: 251-2) says that, "Martha's remark means ostensibly that it will be no consolation *now* to look for one last time on Lazarus—which she imagines to be the only reason for the opening of the tomb; but from the Evangelist's point of view the remark serves to heighten the wonder of the miracle".

²⁸¹⁹ Coloe (2007: 85) sees the following sequence: *first*, Life given: vv. 39-44: "Take away the stone" (v. 39), "Lazarus, come out" (v. 42); *second*, Reaction: v. 39: "Lord, by this time he smells"; *third*, Confirmation: v. 44: The dead man came out; *fourth*, Responses: vv. 45-53: Many believed in him (v. 45), Some went to Pharisees (v. 46), and Caiaphas' decision (v. 50); and *fifth*, Conclusion: v. 54: Jesus has to retire to the wilderness. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 247-8; Beirne, 2003: 129; Kremer, 1985.

²⁸²⁰ Neyrey (2007: 201) states that, "In terms of communication theory, senders (mortals) send messages (petition and praise) to receivers for distinct purposes. Whatever its form, prayer is always addressed to God and aims to have an effect on, or to further interaction with, God". Neyrey identifies it as an 'interactional prayer'.

essence (cf. McGregor, 1928: 252; Neyrey, 2007: 200-1).²⁸²¹ The implicit nature of the Father-Son conversation is revealed through the vocal prayer of Jesus and the unvoiced miracle of the resurrection. The utterance of Jesus in v. 43b can be categorised as an *utterance of authority*. The implicit dialogic nature of the saying of Jesus is revealed through the narratorial note (i.e., “the dead man came out”). The sixth slot ends with a miraculous scene and a *command* of Jesus to the crowd (v. 44b; cf. Brant, 2011: 177; see Diagram 48). The implicit dialogic nature of the utterance of Jesus to the crowd is again responded as the narrator supports that by the crowd’s silence. Thus the four-tier development of the dialogue is plotted within the three-tier *beginning-middle-ending* rhetorical sequence (see Diagram 48).

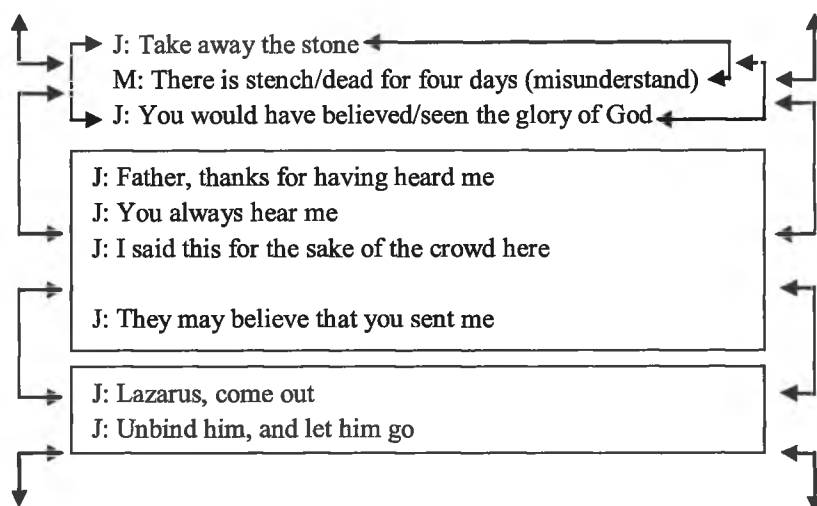


Diagram 48: The dialogic interaction of the sixth slot

The divergent sub-forms²⁸²³ of utterances by Jesus are forceful and promise-fulfilling in also movement-oriented within the slot. While the expression of Jesus in v. 4 (αὐτὴ ἡ ἀσθένεια ἐστὶν πρὸς θάνατον) remains as a *promise*, the final expression in v. 40 (λύσατε αὐτὸν καὶ αὐτὸν ὑπάγειν) fulfills the *promise* (cf. Painter, 1993: 371-2; Dodd, 1960: 366-7; see Diagram 48). The first *glory-utterance* in v. 4 forms an *inclusion* with the second *glory-utterance* in v. 40.

²⁸²¹ Here, prayer is Jesus’ communication with God about the realities around him. At the first half of the prayer, Jesus affirms his personal relationship with his Father and at the second half he shares the concern. God’s answer to the request of Jesus’ prayer is responsive in nature, so also dialogical in essence. The prayer is addressed as a dialogue with the crowd. Bultmann (1971: 407-8; cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 194; Brown, 1986: 436; Brant, 2011: 176-7) says that, “He utters no request; he gives thanks for the hearing already granted (v. 41). Jesus, here, is not even praying from non-praying; rather he gives overt expression to what is the ground and base of his life all along.”

²⁸²² Brant (2011: 177) says that, “The volume with which Jesus speaks can be heard from the grave and drama of the story told in the *parabola* of the good shepherd (10:3)”.

²⁸²³ Jesus’ five utterances in the sixth slot are of four different forms: first, an *order*; second, a *warning*, a *promise*; third, a *prayer*; fourth, an *authoritative utterance*; and fifth, an *order*. The dialogue, here, is an *order-to-order* sequence. Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 407-9.

Neyrey, 2007: 202; Keener, 2003: 2; 848-50).²⁸²⁴ The dialogue as a whole comes to a complete circle (and to a *flashback*) here as at the beginning Jesus proposes manifestation of God's glory and here that comes to a reality (cf. Nicol, 1972: 37-9).

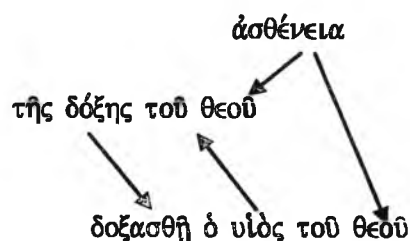


Diagram 49: Illness-and-the Glory of God/Son

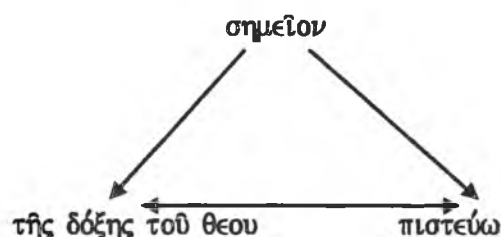


Diagram 50: Sign-Glory-Faith dynamism

Jesus fulfilled his prophetic statement that Lazarus' illness is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it (v. 4; cf. vv. 40-44; cf. Witherington, 1995: 204; Coloe, 2007: 85; see Diagram 49). It is done irrespective of his interlocutors' unbelief and misunderstanding nature. The slot as a whole begins in the form of an *explicit dialogue* between Jesus and Martha, and then it turns to be *implicit dialogues* (vv. 41b-42, 43b, and 44c).²⁸²⁵ The speech-sections in vv. 43-44 are made up of Jesus' utterances of *command/order* to Lazarus and his interlocutors (cf. Nicol, 1972: 37-9; Strachan, 1941: 239-42). Jesus' usage of *commands* (vv. 39a, 44b), *question* (v. 40), *loud utterance* (v. 43), and *prayer* (vv. 41b-42) are antithetical to Martha's *unbelief-oriented and evidentialist utterance* (v. 39b) within the slot. The *dialogue to action movement* of the slot (and also the entire episode) establishes the profoundest *irony* of the extended Johannine story, i.e., Jesus' act of giving life leads to his life being taken away from him (cf. O'Day, 1986: 63-77; McPolin, 1979: 115-28).²⁸²⁶

The analysis of the content and form of the speech-units disclose several factors at the functional level. The narrator, here, begins with an explicit dialogue between Martha and Jesus (vv. 39-40), develops through a prayer (vv. 41b-42), and ends with two implicit dialogues (vv. 43-44). As one of the trends of the gospel, here, the explicit dialogue (vv. 39-40) turns to seams of implicit dialogues (vv. 41-42, 43, 44b; cf. Strachan, 1941: 239-42; Bultmann, 1971: 407-9). Jesus reveals his interlocutor's misunderstanding and unbelieving nature (v. 40), his works under the appointment of the Father (vv. 41a-42), and his power of resurrection before his interlocutors (vv. 41a-44; cf. McGregor, 1928: 251-3). The narrator includes Jesus' *question* in v. 40 to serve at different levels: *first*, to show Martha's immature faith; *second*, to make the reader aware about the

²⁸²⁴ Maniparampil (2004: 229; cf. Moloney, 2005: 231) says that, "The reference to 'glory' in the dialogue with Martha makes an *inclusio* not only with the beginning of this episode (11:4), but with the very beginning of signs (2:1-12)".

²⁸²⁵ The second utterance of Jesus is a response to Martha's utterance, and that is followed by three other utterances (vv. 40, 41b-42, 43b, and 44c). Strachan (1941: 241) opines that, "The story as we have it, is best understood as a striking example of Christian midrash".

²⁸²⁶ Stibbe (1993: 126; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 338-40) says that, "The profoundest irony is the fact that Jesus' act of giving life leads to his life being taken away from him".

connection between “belief” and “the Glory of God/Jesus”; and *third*, to place the story w inclusion of glory (vv. 4 and 40; cf. Witherington, 1995: 204; Greimas, 1987: 63-83).²⁸² response to Martha in v. 40 takes the attention of the reader back to his first utterance in Neyrey, 2007: 202; Coloe, 2007: 85).²⁸²⁸ Sproston North (2001: 156) opines that, “Th returns us to the programmatic v. 4 where Jesus had pronounced that Lazarus’ illness was i δόξης τοῦ θεοῦ”.²⁸²⁹ While his interlocutors are in perplexity about the source of Jesu performing power, his prayer in vv. 41-42 reveals the Father-Son relationship statu authority to perform signs, and the power that leads people toward faith (cf. Moloney 232).²⁸³⁰ The narrator actualises a good climax of the episode by way of intertwining the and implicit dialogues and dramatic aspects together (cf. Dodd, 1960: 365-7; Tan, 1989).²⁸³¹ Thus the explicit-to-implicit dialogic development in vv. 39-44 functions as a re fulfillment-centered, faith-affirming, glory-actualising, sign-performatory, and dramatic Stibbe, 1993: 120-8; Nicol, 1972: 37-9). The reader of the story travels through suspe reaches to surprise and comes to the understanding that Jesus is an emissary from God, p of signs by his very utterances, one who has authority from above, and one glorifies the Fa himself through signs.

12.2.7. Slot Seven (11:45-53)

The central section of the episode ends by the sixth slot and in the seventh slot an ant movement and a related dialogue are at view. The narrator speaks about the revel God’s/Jesus’ glory through the sign of Lazarus’ resurrection (vv. 1-44) and the resulta within the Jewish community (vv. 45-53). While many (Gk. πολλοί) believed in Jesus, them (Gk. τινες ἐξ αὐτῶν) went and reported the events to the chief priests and the Phari

²⁸²⁷ Stibbe (1993: 124) states that, “In John 11:1-44, Jesus stands at the threshold of the tomb of his friend I standing at the entrance associated so obviously with suffering, mourning, sickness and death, Jesus is reve God who is prepared to stand at the most extreme and painful of human experiences. Here Jesus stands at th between life and death, between suffering and glory, pain and sleep”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 194; Br 247; Brodie, 1993: 396-7; Burke, 2003; Von Wahlde, 2010: 510-2; Conway, 1999: 149-50.

²⁸²⁸ Keener (2003: 2: 849) states that, “. . . the glory was the divine purpose for which Lazarus had died; might be glorified (11:4), ultimately by the cross”. Cf. Conway, 1999: 149-50; Brodie, 1993: 396-8; Ba 401-3; Burke, 2003: 66-80; Moloney, 1998: 332; Sproston North, 2001: 154-61.

²⁸²⁹ Sproston North (2001: 156) further comments that, “Thus, the glory to be seen by the faithful in this fir 2:11) is now defined as Jesus’ God-given power to raise the dead and give life (vv. 25-26; cf. 5:21). Cf. Br 66-80; Brodie, 1993: 396-8; Moloney, 1998: 332; Barrett, 1978: 401-3; Keener, 2003: 848.

²⁸³⁰ Strachan (1941: 239) states that, “Verses 41, 42 seem to mean that the prayer of Jesus was unne Himself, and is made only *for the sake of the multitude which standeth around*”. Cf. Burke, 2003: 66-8 2003: 848-50; Barrett, 1978: 401-3; Sproston North, 2001: 154-61; Conway, 1999: 150; Brodie, 1993: 396-8

²⁸³¹ Moloney (1998: 322) states that, “In John 11:1-12:50, Jesus turns toward ‘the hour’ (cf. Brown, 1 Conway (1999: 150; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 346-51; Hägerland, 2003: 309-22; Bowles, 2010: 7-30) “Jesus performs the sign, not simply to restore a dead friend to life, but to convince the Jewish onloo identity”.

45-46; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 407; Talbert, 1992: 176).²⁸³² The dialogue begins with a question of frustration from the part of the chief priests and the Pharisees (v. 47a). The reason for their frustration is expressed at the authoritative and political levels. The main interlocutors of the dialogue are the chief priests and Pharisees, and especially Caiaphas²⁸³³ the High Priest (vv. 49b-50; Dodd, 1968: 58-68; see Table 119).²⁸³⁴

John 11:45-53	Overview
<p>v.45: Πολλοὶ οὖν ἐκ τῶν Ἰουδαίων οἱ ἐλθόντες πρὸς τὴν Μαριάμ καὶ θαυμάζοντες ἃ ἐποίησεν ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν·</p> <p>v.46: τινὲς δὲ ἐξ αὐτῶν ἀπῆλθον πρὸς τοὺς Φαρισαίους καὶ εἶπαν αὐτοῖς ἃ ἐποίησεν Ἰησοῦς.</p> <p>v.47: Συνήγαγον οὖν οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ οἱ Φαρισαῖοι συνέδριον καὶ ἔλεγον· τί ποιοῦμεν ὅτι οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος πολλὰ ποιεῖ σημεῖα;</p> <p>v.48: ἂν ἀφώμεν αὐτὸν οὕτως, πάντες πιστεύουσιν εἰς αὐτόν, καὶ ἐλεύσονται οἱ Ῥωμαῖοι καὶ ἀροῦσιν ἡμῶν καὶ τὸν τόπον καὶ τὸ ἔθνος.</p> <p>v.49: εἰς δὲ τις ἐξ αὐτῶν Καϊάφας, ἀρχιερεὺς ὢν τοῦ ἐνιαυτοῦ ἐκείνου, εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε οὐδέν,</p> <p>v.50: οὐδὲ λογίζεσθε ὅτι συμφέρει ἡμῖν ἵνα εἰς ἄνθρωπος ἀποθάνῃ ὑπὲρ τοῦ λαοῦ καὶ μὴ ὅλον τὸ ἔθνος ἀπόληται.</p> <p>v.51: τοῦτο δὲ ἀφ' ἑαυτοῦ οὐκ εἶπεν, ἀλλὰ ἀρχιερεὺς ὢν τοῦ ἐνιαυτοῦ ἐκείνου ἐπροφήτευσεν ὅτι ἔμελλεν Ἰησοῦς ἀποθνήσκειν ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἔθνους,</p> <p>v.52: καὶ οὐχ ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἔθνους μόνον ἀλλ' ἵνα καὶ τὰ τέκνα τοῦ θεοῦ τὰ διεσκορπισμένα συναγάγῃ εἰς ἓν.</p> <p>v.53: ἀπ' ἐκείνης οὖν τῆς ἡμέρας ἐβουλεύσαντο ἵνα ἀποκτείνωσιν αὐτόν.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 45-53 is comprised of two utterance units (vv. 47b-48, 49b-50); out of the two utterance units, one is of the chief priests and the Pharisees (vv. 47b-48) and the other is of Caiaphas (vv. 49b-50);</p> <p>(2) The seventh slot functions as a supplementary slot as it develops as an antithetical movement;</p> <p>(3) The narratives of the episode are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 45-47a, 49a, 51-53) and <i>formula narrative</i> (vv. 47a, 49a).</p>

Table 119: The dialogue of 11:45-53 within the narratorial framework

This dialogue develops within the Sanhedrin over against Jesus and his crowd-pulling sign performances.²⁸³⁵ Jesus' performance of many signs, increasing number of people's following, and the consequences that may bring to the political scenario (like the coming of Romans, and destruction of the temple and the nation) are main reasons behind their dialoging (vv. 47b-48; cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 856-7). Caiaphas' proposal of Jesus' death as a solution for the dilemma is the

²⁸³² Brant (2004: 38; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 409-10) mentions the positive and negative reactions to Jesus' words and actions (4:28, 40, 45; 5:8-10; 6:14, 60; 7:43; 11:45-53).

²⁸³³ Carson (1991: 421; cf. Salier, 2004: 120-2; Moloney, 1998: 343; Köstenberger, 2004: 351; Brant, 2011: 179-80; Witherington, 1995: 205; Pryor, 1992: 49; Keener, 2003: 2: 857) explains that, "Joseph Caiaphas had been appointed high priest in 18 CE by the Roman prefect Valerius Gratus. His father-in-law was Annas, who himself filled the office during the years 6-15 CE, and whose influence prevailed long after his term of office. Caiaphas remained in office until 36 CE, and when he and Pontius Pilate were both sacked at the same time". Stibbe (1993: 129) states that, "The utterance of Caiaphas in v. 50 forms the focal point of the story and acts as a prolepsis of the death of Jesus".

²⁸³⁴ Stibbe (1993: 130-1; cf. Brant, 2011: 177-9; Dodd, 1960: 367-8) observes that, "This is the first time he has been mentioned in John's story. He is the victim of satire in 11:45-54. The critical weapon which the narrator uses to create this satirical effect is irony. Irony sets up a contrast between the understanding of the character within the narrative world and the much greater understanding of the reader, who is guided by the narrator into a more enlightened point of view".

²⁸³⁵ Carson (1991: 420; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 348; Smith, 1999: 229) points out that, "The highest judicial body in the land was the Sanhedrin, which under Roman authority controlled all Jewish internal affairs. It was simultaneously a judiciary, a legislative body, and, through the high priest, an executive; and all of this authority was perceived to rest on a theocratic basis". Umoh (2000: 47) says that, "The chief priests and the Pharisees react to the information that Jesus has done signs by calling a meeting of the council".

climax of the dialogue (vv. 49b-50; cf. 2 Mac 7:37-38; see Talbert, 1992: 177). Umoh (2000: 42-5; cf. Segovia, 2007: 182) states that, “he [Caiaphas] makes two contrasting assertions centred on Jesus’ death: First of all, if Jesus is killed, his death is sure to bring a political advantage to the Sanhedrin members and himself, since his death alone can avert the political problems facing the nation” (v. 48). Secondly, Jesus’ death will also save the nation from destruction, the existence of which guarantees their continuous exercise of power” (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 409-12; Pryor, 1992: 51).²⁸³⁶ Thus Jesus’ life-giving sign performances, especially of Lazarus’ resurrection, resulted in his own life being at risk.

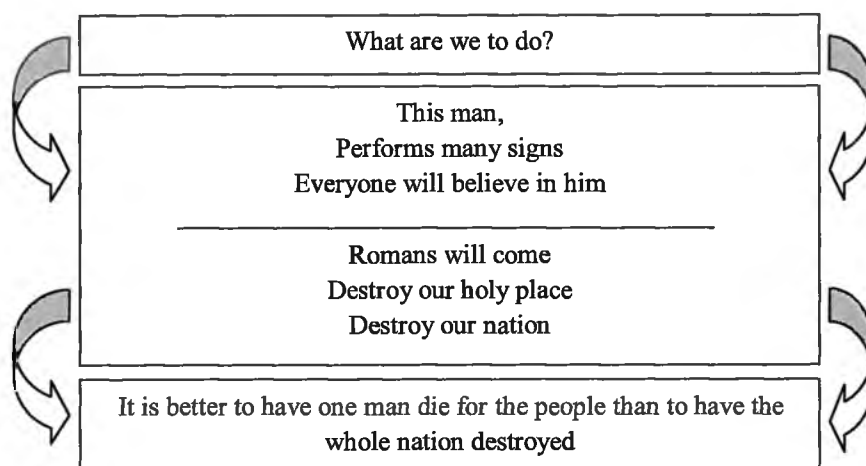


Diagram 51: The dialogic interaction of the seventh slot

Two themes of the utterance units, πιστεύουσιν (v. 48) and ἀποθάνη (v. 50), are very important in order to understand the content of the talk units (cf. Umoh, 2000: 42-5; Ridderbos, 1940: 407-9).²⁸³⁷ The dialogue at vv. 47b-50 is framed within a narratorial *inclusion* of συνήγαγον with συναγάγη (v. 52b).²⁸³⁸ Umoh (2000: 41-2; cf. Patte, 1990: 14-5) states that, “V. 47 b marks the beginning of a new narrative section properly. The unit is structurally framed by the word συναγάγειν occurring in v. 47a and v. 52b respectively, thereby forming an *inclusio*. Such *inclusions* are known to be a structural device that is effectively used elsewhere by the evangelists”. A larger *inclusion* is formed between the prophecy of Jesus about God’s/his glory

²⁸³⁶ Brant (2004: 60) points out about the aspect of legal necessity in 11:47-50 and 12:19. Wallace (1986) considers that the usage ὑπὲρ gives a substitutionary force to the soteriologically significant text in v. 50 (Rom 9:3; Gal 3:13; Phil 13).

²⁸³⁷ Umoh (2000: 43) states that, “. . . to believe (πιστεύουσιν) in Jesus has a negative connotation (in this context). The Sanhedrin members evaluate it as the possible cause of disaster for them and the whole people”. Umoh (2000: 44) continues saying that, “. . . whereas Jesus overcomes death by giving life, the Sanhedrin actors in vv. 47-53 inflict death (ἀποθάνη), because they are themselves afraid of dying”.

²⁸³⁸ Stibbe (1993: 129) observes a chiasmic structure in vv. 45-54 as follows: A = The reaction of the Jews to Jesus’ death (vv. 45-46); B = The gathering together of the Sanhedrin (vv. 47-48); C = Caiaphas’ prophecy (vv. 49-50); D = The gathering together of the children of God (vv. 51-53); A’ = The reaction of Jesus to the Jews (v. 54).

in the first slot (v. 4) and Caiaphas's prophesy against the glorified Jesus in the last slot (vv. 49b-50; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 407-9).²⁸³⁹

Utterance	Form	Content
Chief priests/ Pharisees	question/official, authoritative, political talk	Jesus performs many signs, if it continues everyone will believe in him, Romans will come and destroy both the temple at Jerusalem and the nation
Caiaphas	prophesy, foresight	it is better that one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed

Table 120: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 11:45-53

The dialogue begins with a *question* and an *authoritative/political* talk of the chief priests and Pharisees (vv. 47b-48),²⁸⁴⁰ and ends with a *prophetic utterance* of Caiaphas (vv. 49b-50; cf. Windisch, 1993: 36).²⁸⁴¹ While the chief priests and Pharisees present an *issue* (vv. 47b-48), Caiaphas attempts to suggest a *solution* (vv. 49b-50). The *official* or *authoritative* dialogue²⁸⁴² of the seventh slot is more decisive and severe than any other antagonistic attempts so far (cf. Smith, 1999: 228-32).²⁸⁴³ Duke (1985: 86-7; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 204-5; O'Day, 1986b: 3-32) notices "an unconscious foreshadowing of what is properly called an *irony of events*".²⁸⁴⁴ The dialogue has a *frustrated question-and-reason* to *solution* format (see Diagram 51). The talk units are playing a vital role in order to decide the form of the dialogue within the larger framework of the episode.

²⁸³⁹ Moloney (2005: 233; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 409-10; Pryor, 1992: 49; Pancaro, 1975: 122-5) says that, "... the other side of the $\alpha\lambda\iota\sigma\mu\alpha$ manifests a lack of belief that, ironically, will lead to the crucifixion, the means by which the Son of God will be glorified (v. 4)".

²⁸⁴⁰ Smith (1999: 229) says that, "... the complaint about Jesus' many signs relates not to the uniquely Johannine portrait of Jesus but also to the Jewish expectation to which the portrait answers". Cf. Umoh, 2000; Sproston North, 2001: 58-101; Von Wahlde, 2010: 517-8, 520, 522-4; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 346-51.

²⁸⁴¹ Maniparampil (2004: 299) says that, "John is interpreting the statement of the high priest as an unconscious prophesy regarding the redemptive significance of the death of Jesus". Duke (1985: 87; cf. Brant, 2011: 179; Witherington, 1995: 205; Strachan, 1941: 245; Painter, 1993: 374; Dodd, 1960: 367; McGregor, 1928: 255-7) puts it, "Irony can hardly be richer. Caiaphas, who has waited in the wings these many chapters, now steps on stage to utter his only line. He delivers it with proper conviction and flourish, but cannot hear how he mocks himself, and never perceives that his unseen audience looks on with amusement and pity".

²⁸⁴² It is a very decisive dialogue from the part of the Sanhedrin due to the challenges they were facing from Jesus. The relationship was hardening between Judean society and the antisociety of Jesus. Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 410-2.

²⁸⁴³ Neyrey (2007: 2006) observes that, "The rising of Lazarus causes Jesus' fame to skyrocket, which the council correctly interprets: 'This man performs many signs . . . everyone will believe in him' (11:47-48). As Jesus increases in fame and respect, they proportionately decrease". Beasley-Murray (1987: 198; cf. Moloney, 1998: 344) opines that, "For Caiaphas the death of Jesus was on behalf of 'the people' ($\lambda\alpha\omicron\varsigma$), that 'the whole nation' ($\epsilon\theta\nu\omicron\varsigma$) should not perish; for him the two terms were used synonymously to denote the Jewish nation".

²⁸⁴⁴ Duke (1985: 87; also see pp. 50, 87-9, 90-1, 92, 106, 112-13, 136, 144-5; cf. Brown, 1966: 1: cxxxvf; Brant, 2011: 179-80; Neyrey, 2007: 204-5; Keener, 2003: 2: 855; Painter, 1993: 374) says that, "The members of the council are clearly in a panic. Their tumbling sentence, using *kai* four times, gives indication that they are in about as much control of their speech as Caiaphas will shortly be of his. They set forth a conditional clause, 'If we let Jesus live', followed by three sure unacceptable consequences: everyone will believe, the Romans will destroy the temple, the Romans will destroy the nation. The irony is obvious enough".

The seventh slot functions as an appendix to the Lazarus episode and that affixes the narrative into the plot structure of the macro-dialogue.²⁸⁴⁵ Our study on the content of the leads us to think about the antithetical form and function of the dialogue in the seventh slot (Tan, 1993: 50-89). The lead man in the first six slots, Jesus, and the lead man in the seventh slot, Caiaphas, and their utterances and activities introduce a contrast. Jesus' prophetic statement in v. 4, its fulfillment in v. 40, and the subsequent event of the resurrection of Lazarus (vv. 41-44) prompted Caiaphas for his prophetic utterance in vv. 49b-50 (cf. Dodd, 1968: 48-58). In slot²⁸⁴⁶ (vv. 45-54), the narrator takes control of the discussions and tells the reader the consequences of the event that took place in the previous six slots (cf. Moore, 1989: 17-31; Reinhartz, 2001: 17-31). Stibbe (1993: 129; cf. Talbert, 1992: 176-8) states that, "John 11:45-54 is crucial to the plot of John's story". The sign of Lazarus' resurrection reveals the Glory of God. While John the narrator reports that "many of the Jews . . . seen what Jesus did, believed in him" (v. 45),²⁸⁴⁷ the characters tell that "this man (Jesus) is performing many signs... every Jew who does not believe in him . . ." (vv. 47b-48; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 407-8). Thus a functional sequence *sign-glory-belief* is emphasised both by the narrator and by the utterances of the characters. In slot²⁸⁴⁸ the narrator communicates the resultant consequences (vv. 45-47a), the council decisions (vv. 47b-50) and Jesus' flee from the scene (v. 54; cf. Smith, 1999: 228-32; Von Wahlde, NTS: 51). The dialogue-section (vv. 47b-50) is placed between the resultant consequences (vv. 45-47a) and council decisions (vv. 51-53). The dialogue in vv. 47b-50 functions as a reaction over against the *sign-glory-belief* language of the dialogues in the first six slots. Thus the episode ends with a new tone and dramatic flavours (cf. Elam, 1980: 135-91; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24).²⁸⁴⁸

12.3.Meso-Analysis

At the meso-level, we will look into the way the narrator interconnects different slots of the macro-dialogue in order to form the current episode (cf. Moloney, 2005: 218-34). Divergent dialogic form is employed by him in order to lead the whole discussion toward the central topic (cf. Dennis, 1992: 69-84; Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95). The dialogues of the episode can be classified as follows. Slot one (vv. 3-4) has an *indirect dialogue* that is propositional as it proposes a forthcoming revelation of glory (v. 4; cf. McGregor, 1928: 244-6; Talbert, 1992: 171-2). Slot two (vv. 7-16) is *antithetical* and *argumentative* in essence as the 'inside group' rebels against the plans of the protagonist. But, the protagonist reveals and fulfills his plan and purpose irre-

²⁸⁴⁵ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 215) considers vv. 45-53 as the "consequence of the miraculous action".

²⁸⁴⁶ It can be considered as an "Appendix" to the previous six slots. Cf. Bruce, 1983: 248-52; Brodie, 1999: 100-101; Von Wahlde, 2010: 516-24; Umoh, 2000; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 346-51.

²⁸⁴⁷ As in the case of some of the previous instances, both Jesus' words and deeds divided the Jews. Cf. 6:1-13, 45-52; see Carson, 1991: 419; Köstenberger, 2004: 347; Von Wahlde, 2010: 510.

²⁸⁴⁸ Stibbe (1993: 130-1; cf. Hägerland, 2003: 309-22) says that, "Caiaphas is brought into the centre of the dramatic narrative before us He is the victim of satire in 11:45-54. The critical weapon which the narrator uses to create this satirical effect is irony. Irony sets up a contrast between the misunderstanding of a character in the narrative world and the much greater understanding of the reader, who is guided by the narrator in an enlightened point of view".

of his interlocutors' misunderstanding nature. The narrator here uses a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification formula* as the basic literary phenomenon for the argumentation (cf. Dodd, 1960: 363; Neyrey, 2007: 194). Slot three (vv. 21-27) is *self-revelatory* as Jesus reveals his personal identity as the "I am", "resurrection", and "life" (vv. 25-26), and it further reveals the identity of Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world through his interlocutor's confession (v. 27; cf. Painter, 1993: 273; Ball, 1996: 101-9).²⁸⁴⁹ As in the case of the second slot, in the third too the narrator employs a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification formula* as the central tenet of the slot (cf. Anderson, 2007: 141-58; Ellis, 1984: 7-8).

Subsequently, slot four (vv. 28-29) is introduced as an *implicit dialogue* that sustains an *information-action-verbal interaction pattern* (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 195-6; Talbert, 1992: 172). Slot five (vv. 32b-37) begins in the form of an *implicit dialogue* (v. 32b), progresses through a *question-and-answer dialogue* (v. 34), and ends as a *dialogue within a dialogue* (vv. 36-37; cf. Bridges, 1991: 146). The fifth slot focuses more on the dramatic moments and sentiments of the characters by the help of the utterance units and the narratorials and that facilitates tension within the episode (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 405-7; Keener, 2003: 2: 845-8).²⁸⁵⁰ The sixth slot (vv. 39-44) has a four-tier dialogue that keeps both the *explicit* and the *implicit* tenets. It is a *dialogue of fulfillment* (vv. 39-40) as well as a *flashback slot* that sustains a *dialogue-to action format* (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 394-412; Nicol, 1972: 37-8, 47, 60, 75, 109-10).²⁸⁵¹ The seventh slot (vv. 47b-50) can be characterised by its *antithetical* features and its development 'from a belief-centered *issue* to a death-centered *solution*' (cf. Painter, 1993: 367-75; Thompson, 2008: 233-44).²⁸⁵² In the process of the slot-development, the fourth slot functions in the form of a turn-taking narratorial snippet as it directs the attention of the reader from the vocal level interactions of the first three slots to the action-oriented levels in the fifth and sixth slots. The seventh slot functions as a *dialogic addendum* to the Lazarus episode (cf. Strachan, 1941: 236-7).

²⁸⁴⁹ McGregor (1928: 248-9) says that, "... Jesus replies that 'the resurrection' and the 'life' which it guarantees, are not future but present, not doctrines but facts, not events in time but states conditional upon a *personal relationship*". Cf. Brodie, 1993: 393; Conway, 1999: 135-50; Talbert, 1992: 172-4; Keener, 2003: 842-5; Von Wahlde, 2010: 487-9; Sproston North, 2001: 134-41.

²⁸⁵⁰ Bridges (1991: 146) says that, "The dialogue between Jesus and Martha functions interpretatively, and does not directly further the main narrative progression. The summoning of Mary (v. 28) results in her performance (v. 29) of going to meet Jesus".

²⁸⁵¹ Dodd (1960: 363) views that, "... the *pericope* 11:1-44 is found to contain a large proportion of discourse, in the form of dialogue, in which the interlocutors, apart from Jesus, are Mary, Martha and Thomas, as well as the messengers from Bethany, the disciples in a body, and the 'Jews' who serve as chorus and comment on the action. The lively interchange of dialogue, which is characteristic of this author's style, runs through the whole *pericope*".

²⁸⁵² Both the second and the seventh slots are antithetical in nature. While the second slot pictures the rebellious and misunderstanding character of the disciples, the seventh discusses about the antithetical movement of the Jews against Jesus movement. Cf. Von Wahlde, 2010: 504-9; Keener, 2003: 848-58; Brodie, 1993: 383-400; Conway, 1999: 149-51; Sproston North, 2001: 154-63; Umoh, 2000: 39-111.

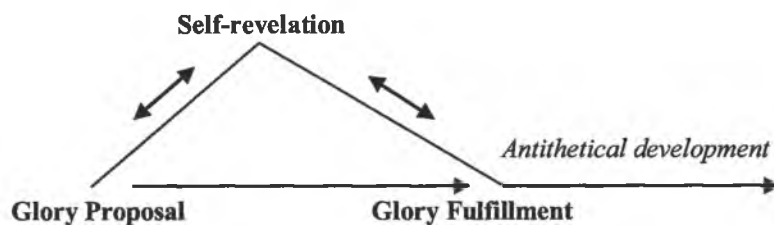


Diagram 52: The plot-development of the episode

The first slot proposes the forthcoming glory of God/Jesus by means of Lazarus' resurrection; the sixth slot actualises the proposal. In the third slot Jesus reveals his identity as the resurrection and life and his interlocutor comes to know that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and coming into the world (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 402-3; Talbert, 1992: 171-6). The seventh slot is *antithetical* as it develops against Jesus' revelation and glorification. The overarching theme of the dialogue is Jesus' revelation as the "I am", "resurrection and life" and that comes at the end of the episode (cf. Ihenacho, 2001: 3-19, 293-366; Ball, 1996: 101-9, 156-61). This development of the dialogue forms a 'pedimental' structure²⁸⁵³ (see Diagram 52) within the episode. The statement of Jesus in v. 4 functions in two ways within the larger story: *first*, the statement holds the structure of the whole and finally connects well with the glory-statement of Jesus to Martha in the sixth slot (v. 40);²⁸⁵⁴ and *second*, the prophetic nature of the statement at the beginning of the episode is framed by an *inclusio* with the prophetic statement of Caiaphas in the seventh slot (vv. 49b-50; cf. Witherington, 1993: 34-7). Moloney (1998: 325) rightly puts it, "The words of Jesus in v. 4 and the coming of Caiaphas and the narrator in vv. 49-52 frame the story of the resurrection that will follow death".²⁸⁵⁵ Thus the narrator opens up the prophetic, revelatory, and glory-focused nature of the story in the first slot itself and that further progresses in the succeeding slots.²⁸⁵⁶

The plot-structure of the entire episode can be understood as follows. While the first two slots (vv. 1-6, 7-16) form a *beginning* for the episode through the proposition of glory and the preparation of dialogues, the third and the fourth slots (vv. 17-27, 28-29) form a *middle* by way of a dialogue between Jesus and Martha where Jesus' self-revelation and Martha's identification of the Son of God are testified. The fifth and the sixth slots (vv. 30-37, 38-44) form the *ending* of the episode through the glory fulfillment. Thus, the narrator keeps a *beginning-middle-ending* plot development.

²⁸⁵³ Press (2007: 62) states that, "Plato seems to have given most of his dialogues what has been called a 'pedimental' structure; that is, like the triangular architectural structure of the upper part of Greek temples that rise to a point in the middle".

²⁸⁵⁴ At the beginning of the story, the narrator points out two things: *first*, the illness of Lazarus is for God's glory; *second*, God's glory is the glory of the Son of God (v. 4).

²⁸⁵⁵ Neyrey (2007: 204) says that, "This episode contains numerous ironic elements". He identifies "Jesus' death now causes his death" as one of the foundational irony of the episode. Cf. Brodie, 1993: 383-400; Burke, 2001: 39-51; Conway, 1999: 149-51; Brant, 2011: 170-9; Sproston North, 2001: 154-63; Von Wahlde, 2010: 504-15; Ussery, 1993: 39-111; Keener, 2003: 848-58.

²⁸⁵⁶ Stibbe (1993: 124; cf. Brant, 2011: 170-79) points out that, "each phase of this plot sequence is characterized by a sense of movement from one place to another".

episode (cf. Lincoln, 2008: 211; Torrance, 2008: 245-62).²⁸⁵⁷ But the short slot at the centre, i.e., vv. 28-29, functions as a transitional slot as it connects the dialogue-centered first half with the action-centered second half. This format is helpful in understanding the *dialogue-to-action* plot structure of the episode (cf. Brooks, 1984: 3-61).²⁸⁵⁸ In that sense, slot seven (vv. 45-53) can be better understood as an addendum to the entire episode. This general frame of the episode is used in order to reveal Jesus' identity progressively as the resurrection and the life (cf. O'Day, 1986: 1-2; Coloe, 2007: 83-103). The 'sign' language²⁸⁵⁹ of the episode is performative,²⁸⁶⁰ glory-focused,²⁸⁶¹ and belief-beckoning.²⁸⁶² The seven-slot structure of the episode is filled with dynamic talk-and-action involvements (cf. Harrop, 1992: 10-6; Barry, 1970: 10-51). The first six slots develop as a *promise-to-fulfillment* sequential dialogue centering on the theme revelation of God's glory (cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 835-50; Coloe, 2007: 83-103).²⁸⁶³ This framework of the episode is instrumental for the narrator to lead his reader from suspense to surprise.

The gradual growth of "belief language" is one of the conspicuous features of the narrative (vv. 15, 25, 26, 27, 40, 42, 45, 48). Belief works in two ways in relation to God's glory within the episode: *first*, Martha was asked to believe first in order to see the glory (v. 40); and *second*, many Jews believed after Jesus revealed his glory (vv. 45-46).²⁸⁶⁴ The recurring πιστεύω-language of the narrative can be understood only in relation to the δόξα-language. The πιστις- and δόξα-languages of the narrative coupled with the *revelatory motif* are demonstrative and performative in essence (cf. Brant, 2011: 170-9; Witherington, 1995: 196-205). Jesus' revelation of God's glory for the sake of his disciples' belief is the very essence of this dramatic narrative (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 94). A glory-focused revelatory masterplan is set from the beginning of the narrative and, finally, reaches into its fulfillment at the climax of the episode (cf. Schneiders, 2002: 191-2; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 386-407). In the overall movement and tone of the utterances, Jesus' utterances almost

²⁸⁵⁷ Stibbe (1993: 122; cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53) sees the following plot sequence on the basis of Jesus' movement: *Beginning*: Jesus is told of Lazarus' illness but delays his journey to Bethany (vv. 1-16; i.e., 'outside of Judea'); *Middle*: Jesus arrives at Bethany and speaks with Martha and Mary outside the village (vv. 17-37; i.e., 'outside of Bethany'); and *End*: Jesus comes to the tomb and raises Lazarus from the dead (vv. 38-44; i.e., 'outside the tomb'). In our analysis, we analyse the episode on the basis of the glory-focused revelation and the dialogue to action patterns.

²⁸⁵⁸ Dodd (1960: 363) says that, "... we are to recognise in this pericope a special variation upon the regular Johannine pattern of sign + discourse". Culpepper (1983: 141) observes that, "instead of grafting dialogues onto a miracle story as in earlier chapters, the evangelist here delays the miracle and interprets it by means of preliminary conversations".

²⁸⁵⁹ This story is considered as a 'sign' and the last of the seven.

²⁸⁶⁰ The ability of language to perform the story before the reader is one of the characteristic features of John's Gospel. For more details about the use of 'performative language' in John, refer to Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67.

²⁸⁶¹ The story's thematic emphasis on "God's glory" within an inclusion is decisive for determining its form.

²⁸⁶² For more details about the faith-emphatic nature of the story, see the chart within the text.

²⁸⁶³ Stibbe (1993: 123) sees a U-shaped plot for the entire episode. He says that, "If we begin in 10:40-42, we can see that the plot of John 11:1-44 begins on a high note. Here the narrator reports that many believed in Jesus. Subsequently, there is a sense of descent into something far darker However, the story ends with a definite ascent into the comic This U-shaped sequence functions as a microcosm of the plot structure of the story in its entirety".

²⁸⁶⁴ Neyrey (2007: 204) points out the irony of the revelation of glory as follows: "The sign that manifests his (i.e., Jesus') glory to many excites only envy in others". Cf. Brodie, 1993: 398-9; Umoh, 2000: 39-111; Burke, 2003: 83-90; Sproston North, 2001: 154-63; Keener, 2003: 842-58; Conway, 1999: 135-50.

always maintain *illocutionary force*.²⁸⁶⁵ Jesus' utterances are forceful, forward-looking, oriented, and promise-to-fulfillment developmental within the episode.²⁸⁶⁶ The *content, function* of the dialogue direct the reader towards a *glory-focused revelatory dialogue*.²⁸⁶⁷ (2000: 43; cf. Ihenacho, 2001: 3-19, 293-366) says that, "... the principal actor, Jesus, encourages people to believe in him (vv. 1-45), not because he wants political control over them, but he wants them to have eternal life (vv. 25, 26); or to see the glory of God and to have a share in the resurrection".²⁸⁶⁸ The dialogue's dramatic climax and the ironical events lead the reader to the forthcoming events with anticipation (cf. Pryor, 1992: 47-50).²⁸⁶⁹ John's dialogue has the *face-to-face* and *heart-to-heart* language (cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 23-55; O'Day, 1987: 11-12). It is ironical that: *first*, one's glory is another's shame; and *second*, one (group) attempts to challenge the glory of the 'other' in order to retain their glory (cf. vv. 45-53).²⁸⁷⁰ These various literary devices of the story are rhetorical and they seize the attention of the reader toward the protagonist and his interlocutors (cf. Falk, 1971: 42-50; Nichols, 1971: 130-41). The narrator of the story is powerful enough to channelise the attentiveness of the reader toward a positive power that generates the life of the reader and the reader's attentiveness to the narrative world energise a wider world.

²⁸⁶⁵ Jesus' talks dominate the entire episode. The distribution of sayings among the characters is as follows: Jesus, 1; disciples (as a group), 2; Thomas, 1; Martha and Mary (message), 1; Martha alone, 5; Mary alone, 1; Jews, 2; and the Sanhedrin, 2.

²⁸⁶⁶ Zimmermann (2008: 82) says that, "The reader is dying to ask, when are we getting to the point? Why are we going to get down to business? But what is the 'business' of this narrative? In recognizing a conscious strategy in this *tactic of procrastination*, the reader must have realized by the time he or she finally gets to the end that this is not a 'simple' miracle story".

²⁸⁶⁷ Jesus' *illocutionary utterance* at the beginning of the narrative directs both the interlocutors and the reader towards its fulfillment.

²⁸⁶⁸ He (2000: 43) continues saying that, "The principal actors in vv. 47-53 on the other hand, do not want to believe in Jesus, because they do not want to lose their political control over them. Thus there is a fundamental misunderstanding of the purpose of Jesus' activities by the Sanhedrin members, who now gather to discuss their activities".

²⁸⁶⁹ Moloney (1998: 335) is of the opinion that, "Violent events lie ahead but they will bring about the hour of his lifting up, his glorification, the gift of the Spirit, the revelation of the glory of God, and the gathering of the people of God". Brown, 1966: 435-7; Neyrey, 2007: 192-207. Culpepper (1983: 94) adds by saying that, "The occasion brings Jesus face to face with his own death, his own tomb, weeping women, and the symbolic stone which defends the tomb of the living". Neyrey (2007: 207) opines about 11: 53-57 as follows: "This transition passage contains the events that immediately unfold".

²⁸⁷⁰ By the end of the story, especially in the seventh slot, the council's decision is to cease the glory of Jesus and to retain their glory.

²⁸⁷¹ The narrator's *point of view* about the episode and its characters reflects/reveals through the narrative-argumentative dynamism (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 167-96; Tovey, 1997: 44-68). The narrator's *point of view* about Jesus is as follows: *first*, Jesus is a friend of the family; *second*, one who promises to glorify his Father; *third*, one who promises resurrection and life (cf. Ihenacho, 2001: 3-19, 293-366); *fourth*, one who expresses his emotions, acts, moves, and orders; and *fifth*, one who dialogues and directs his interlocutors toward *believing* in God. The narrator presents the interlocutors as argumentative, people of little faith or no faith, misunderstanding, emotional, and villainous (cf. Pryor, 1992: 47-9). The dialogues between the protagonist and the interlocutors help the reader to understand the narrative dynamics. For more details about the Johannine narrator and the point of view, refer to Culpepper, 1983: 15-16.

beyond the *black-and-white* textual horizon (cf. Warren and Wellek, 1955: 181; Kennedy, 1984: 3-38).²⁸⁷²

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/s
Slot # 1 11:1-6	Content: ἀσθένεια of the loved one and Jesus' foresight of Lazarus' escape from death // Form: Interlocutors' <i>information</i> followed by protagonist's <i>glory statement</i> ; <i>indirect communication</i> (dialogue) // Function: It functions as a propositional slot for the entire episode. The narrator catches the attention of the reader by way of Jesus' very first utterance of the episode (v. 4) and leads her/him through suspense until the last moment. The reader is motivated to know the way God's/Son of God's glory would be manifested.	The narrator employs the <i>information to glory statement</i> format in order to convey the message: <i>first</i> , ἀσθένεια of the loved one; and <i>second</i> , Jesus' foresight of Lazarus' escape from death
Slot # 2 11:7-16	Content: Jesus' journey plans for Lazarus' resurrection that in turn is a journey for the sake of disciples' belief. Physical journey toward Judea and the spiritual journey of believing // Form: <i>Statement-misunderstanding-clarification, conflictive, argumentative, defensive, antithetical</i> // Function: The reader is encouraged "to remain true to their calling in times of peril" (cf. Sproston North, 2001: 139). The reader is prepared to travel with Jesus (and with the 'hesitant' disciples) to see the manifestation of God's glory. S/he is also challenged by Jesus' utterance about the urgency of praxis within the available span of time.	The <i>statement-misunderstanding-clarification</i> and the <i>antithetical formats</i> of the dialogue decipher concerning the pro-journey plans of Jesus and the counter arguments of the disciples
Slot # 3 11:17-27	Content: Revelation of Jesus' identity. He is the Lord, I AM, the resurrection and the life, the Messiah, the Son of God, and the one coming into the world. The sequence of <i>death-resurrection-belief</i> plays a vital role within the narratorial framework // Form: <i>Self-revelatory through argumentation, statement-misunderstanding-clarification</i> // Function: The reader of the dialogue can realise the <i>here and now</i> aspects of believing and living. S/he is invited to the belief that the text requires and to the succeeding narratives. Jesus reveals his identity irrespective of his interlocutor's misunderstanding. This revelatory linkage is important to understand the overall function of the episode.	The argumentation by way of <i>statement-misunderstanding-clarification</i> is useful in revealing the identity of Jesus, especially as the resurrection and the life.
Slot # 4 11:28-29	Content: Martha's private talk with Mary about the call of the teacher and Mary's immediate reaction // Form: <i>implicit, information</i> (v. 28b)- <i>action</i> (v. 29)- <i>verbal interaction</i> (v. 32b) sequential // Function: The narrator achieves a turn taking initiative from the vocal level interactions in the previous slots to the praxis levels in the latter half of the episode. Martha's private statement is not only responsive from the part of Mary but also persuasive for the reader in order to be attuned within the narrative framework.	The implicit dialogic seams of the slot help the narrator to achieve a turn taking initiative from the first half of the episode to the second half of the episode
Slot # 5 11:30-37	Content: Mary expresses her confidence in Jesus (v. 32b; cf. v. 21), Jesus moves both internally and externally by asking "where have you laid him?" (v. 34a), and a schism among the Jews on account of Jesus // Form: <i>Tri-tier, implicit, question-and-answer, a sarcastic/skeptical dialogue within the dialogue, agony-</i>	The <i>tri-tier</i> (i.e., <i>implicit, question-and-answer, and dialogue within the dialogue</i>) emphasises Mary's confident statement,

²⁸⁷² The literary devices and styles are employed in order to capture the minds of the reader (cf. Tovey, 1997: 35-6; Felton and Thatcher, 2001: 209-18). Thus while dialogues are part of the narrative framework, those dialogues are means for the dialogue between the narrator and the reader beyond the textual framework. Dodd (1960: 363) says that, "... these dialogues could not stand by themselves. They need the situation in order to be intelligible, and they not only discuss high themes of Johannine theology, but also promote and explain the action of the narrative".

	<i>centered, emotional, movement-oriented</i> // Function: The reader of the narrative identify her/himself with Jesus as he accommodates human sentiments. The reader is directed from the argument-centered first half to the movement/emotion-oriented second half of the episode.	Jesus' internal and e movements/emotion the schism within th spectators.
Slot # 6 11:38-44	Content: The fulfillment of the proposed glory of God (of Jesus; v. 4) through the resurrection of Lazarus (also revelation of God's glory through Jesus) // Form: <i>Four-tier, an explicit dialogue leading to implicit dialogues, from the promise of the glory of God (Jesus) to the fulfillment of the glory of God (Jesus), from-dialogue-to-action, flashback type</i> // Function: It functions as a revelatory, fulfillment-centered, faith-affirming, glory-actualising, sign-performatory, and dramatic slot. The reader of the story who was travelling through moments of suspense right from the beginning reaches into surprise, and comes to the realisation that Jesus is an emissary from God, performer of signs by his very utterances, one who has authority from above, and one who glorifies the Father and himself through signs.	The promise of the God (Jesus) outlined beginning of the epi fulfilled through the resurrection of Laza narrator uses a <i>four-implicit-to-explicit, dialogue-to-action, flashback type dialo</i> to convey the messa lead the reader to su
Slot # 7 11:45-53	Content: The issue of Jesus' popularity and the consequences that may bring to the political scenario. Caiaphas' solution to kill Jesus in order to save the nation. Jesus risks his life due to his life-giving sign performances // Form: <i>Antithetical, frustrated question-and-reason to solution, from belief-centered issue to death-centered solution</i> // Function: Appendix to the Lazarus episode. The dialogue in vv. 47b-50 functions as a reaction over against the <i>sign-glory-belief</i> ideology of the dialogues in the first six slots. The reader is informed that the council decisions are ironic as Jesus is going to die for his life-giving sign performances.	The antithetical for the dialogue (i.e., 'f belief-centered <i>issu</i> death-centered <i>solu</i> a reaction over agai <i>sign-glory-belief</i> id sequence of the firs slots.

Table 121: The summary of the dialogue of the twelfth episode

Episode Thirteen

A Conflict-centered Dialogue

(11:54-12:50)

The dialogue of John 11:54-12:50 has a complex character. As it is the last episode of the BS, it requires a careful analysis in order to see how the first part of the larger Johannine narrative concludes and to know how it opens way for the BG. The setting, content, form, and function of the episode at 11:54-12:50 will be analysed in the following discussion.

13.1. The Setting and the Dialogue Text

The setting of 11:54-12:50 develops from one context to the other (cf. Tolmie, 1999: 105-13; Nussbaum, 1986: 170).²⁸⁷³ In 11: 54, the narrator begins by reporting that Jesus “no longer walked openly among the Jews” (cf. 7:4), “but went from there to a town called Ephraim in the region near the wilderness”, and “he remained there with his disciples” (cf. Strachan, 1941: 246; McGregor, 1928: 257).²⁸⁷⁴ In 11:55, he further indicates about the forthcoming Passover (11:55).²⁸⁷⁵ Mostly the narrative is set within the pre-Passover events and dialogues.²⁸⁷⁶ The overall narrative reveals a *ceremonial- and religious-setting*²⁸⁷⁷ as the events unfold during the Passover season (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87, 113-4). The major geographical locations covered here are Ephraim, Jerusalem and Bethany (see Resseguie, 2005: 87). The slots are delineated with the following setting descriptions. *First*, the episode begins in dual-settings (i.e., *geographical/topographical* and

²⁸⁷³ Powell (1990: 69) describes that, “Characters are like nouns Character traits may be likened to adjectives since they describe the characters involved in the action. And settings? Settings are the adverbs of literary structure: they designate when, where, and how the action occurs”. Chatman (1978: 138-41) says the demarcation between settings and characters (both of which he calls ‘existents’) is not a simple line but a continuum.

²⁸⁷⁴ Keener (2003: 2: 858) opines that, “‘Ephraim’ (11: 54) was in Samaritan territory, hence that Jesus took refuge there with his friends from Samaria (4:40). This is possible, though probably only the former Palestinian Jewish Christians in the community would understand the geographical allusion”. On the other hand, Brant (2011: 178) says that, “Geographers have not located Ephraim. Perhaps this is precisely the point. Jesus chooses a location so far off the beaten path that few have heard of it”.

²⁸⁷⁵ Bultmann (1971: 413; cf. Strachan, 1941: 246) says that, “V. 55 makes the chronological statement that the Passover feast is impending; the pilgrims are streaming to Jerusalem, and that early enough to undertake the necessary Levitical purifications”. Keener (2003: 2: 858) further says that, “That ‘the Jewish festival of Passover was near’ (11:55) recalls the earlier Passovers in the gospel, announced in almost identical words (2:13; 6:4). Both previous Passovers in the story became occasions for severe conflict (2:15-19; 6:66), and the earlier gospel traditions reserves the paschal announcement for the Passion Week (Mark 14:1, 12; Matthew 26:18)”.

²⁸⁷⁶ Bruce (1983: 252) says that, “This is the third Passover mentioned in John’s gospel. The first (2:13) was early in Jesus’ ministry, before the arrest of John the Baptist (cf. 3:24) The second Passover recorded by John (6:4) fell in the course of Jesus’ Galilean ministry”

²⁸⁷⁷ Strachan (1941: 246) says that, “The pilgrims stood in the precincts where they came for purposes of purification”.

religious/architectural; 11:54-57).²⁸⁷⁸ While Jesus stays with his disciples in a town in Ephraim in the region near the wilderness, the Jews are eagerly waiting for his arrival in the city at Jerusalem. Though the multitudes are not sure about the coming of Jesus to the temple, the authorities are preparing themselves for his arrest.²⁸⁷⁹ Stibbe (1993: 131) is of the opinion that “The *anabasis* or ascent to Jerusalem by the many people in v. 55 can be interpreted at a symbolic level. The hour of Jesus’ *anabasis*, his return and ascent to the Father via Calvary, has now arrived”.²⁸⁸⁰ Second, 12:1-11 identifies a *homely/architectural* (home of Lazarus), *geographical* (Bethany), and *ritualistic* (anointing; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87-120; Brant, 2011: 179-80) setting. The reader can notice the way the *celebrative* mood, on the one hand, and the *antagonistic* mood, on the other, develop side by side within the plot structure of the slot. Though the events of the slot happen away from Jerusalem (i.e., in Bethany) and it forms an interlude between the first and the third slots, its setting is integrally connected to the previous episode (i.e., 11:1-53; cf. Beasley-Murray, 2007: 208; Dodd, 1960: 368-70).²⁸⁸¹ Third, the setting of the larger but complex slot three narrative is *festive/religious*,²⁸⁸² *architectural*,²⁸⁸³ *ceremonial* and *processional* (12:12-11; cf. Smith, 1999: 235-41).²⁸⁸⁴ Fourth, a setting is introduced in 12:36b-50 about which there is not much indication.²⁸⁸⁵ But the fourth slot is set as the concluding section of the entire BS (slot four, 122). This general understanding of the setting of the episode may help the reader to understand the various events and dialogues within this complex climax of the first half of the gospel.

²⁸⁷⁸ Beasley-Murray (1987: 205-6; cf. Painter, 1993: 374-5; Neyrey, 2007: 207) says that, “11:55-57 forms a bridge passage from the Lazarus narrative to the events of chap. 12, but it belongs essentially to the latter; it is the approach of the final Passover of Jesus’ ministry, and so provides the setting for the acts and discourses of chap. 12 which are concerned with the approaching death of Jesus”.

²⁸⁷⁹ Bultmann (1971: 413-14) opines that, “As at the feast of Tabernacles (7:11-13), so now also the crowd is faced with the question, ‘Will Jesus come?’ People incline to the opinion: ‘Certainly not! For everybody knows—this context is to be understood—that the authorities have given command for his arrest’”. Cf. Robertson, 1995: 505-6; Gaebele, 1936: 215-8; Carson, 1991: 424-5.

²⁸⁸⁰ Stibbe (1993:131; cf. Brown, 1966: 445-6) says further that, “The double mention of the third and final slot of the gospel in 11:55 prepares the reader for the sacrifice of Jesus at Golgotha”. Beasley-Murray (1987) opines, “11:55-57 forms a bridge passage from the Lazarus narrative to the events of chap. 12 . . . and so provides the setting for the acts and discourses of chap. 12, which are concerned with the approaching death of Jesus”.

²⁸⁸¹ From Jesus’ interlocutors’ point of view and the point of view of the Jewish authorities who were attempting to arrest Jesus. Smith (1999: 232) says that, “Again it is the chief priests and Pharisees who are in league against Jesus (11:57; cf. 47; 7:32). The narrative preparation for Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem seems complete, but there is another interlude before the entry into the city actually takes place (12:1-11)”. Cf. Brown, 1966: 452-4; Carson, 1998: 347-50; McGregor, 1928: 258-61.

²⁸⁸² The events unfold during the pre-festival period (12:12). Cf. Carson, 1991: 424-31; Resseguie, 2005: 87-120; Smith, 1999: 235-7; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 412-23.

²⁸⁸³ The events of slot three are happening around the temple. The Jews’ “went out to meet Jesus” can be understood in relation to the temple at Jerusalem. See Resseguie, 2005: 87; Talbert, 1992: 179-87.

²⁸⁸⁴ As the crowd took branches of palm trees, went out to meet Jesus, and he sat on the donkey (12:12-13; cf. Carson, 1998: 204) say that, “The story about Mary anointing Jesus’ feet in 12: 1-8 is bracketed by the notices (11:55-57 and 12:9-11) of activities among the hostile Judeans. Such bracketing suggests simultaneous events while the Judeans were looking for Jesus and eventually found him, Jesus was at a meal”. Also see Carson, 1998: 347-50; Blomberg, 2001: 179-84; Smith, 1999: 233-7; Talbert, 1992: 179-87.

²⁸⁸⁵ Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 213) opine that, “With the notice of Jesus’ departure and self-concealment, the first half of the gospel comes to an end. The outstanding feature of this part of the gospel has been Jesus’ self-disclosure in terms of what the author calls ‘signs’”. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 215; Neyrey, 2007: 220; Carson, 1998: 347-50; Stibbe, 1993: 137; Köstenberger, 2004: 387-8.

Slots	Episode 13: John 11:54-12:50
Slot # 1 ²⁸⁸⁶ 11:54-57	<i>Jews</i> : Τί δοκεῖ ὑμῖν; ὅτι οὐ μὴ ἔλθῃ εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν;
Slot # 2 ²⁸⁸⁷ 12:1-11	<i>Judas Iscariot</i> : Διὰ τί τοῦτο τὸ μύρον οὐκ ἐπράθη τριακοσίων δηναρίων καὶ ἐδόθη πτωχοῖς; <i>Jesus</i> : "Ἀφες αὐτήν, ἵνα εἰς τὴν ἡμέραν τοῦ ἐνταφιασμοῦ μου τηρήσῃ αὐτό· τοὺς πτωχοὺς γὰρ πάντοτε ἔχετε μεθ' ἑαυτῶν, ἐγὼ δὲ οὐ πάντοτε ἔχετε
Slot # 3 ²⁸⁸⁸ 12:12-36a	<i>Crowd</i> : Ὁσωννά· εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος ἐν ὀνόματι κυρίου, [καὶ] ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ <i>Scripture fulfillment</i> : Μὴ φοβοῦ, θυγάτηρ Σιών· ἰδοὺ ὁ βασιλεὺς σου ἔρχεται, καθήμενος ἐπὶ πῶλον ὄνου <i>Pharisees (one another)</i> : Θεωρεῖτε ὅτι οὐκ ὠφελεῖτε οὐδέν· ἴδε ὁ κόσμος ὀπίσω αὐτοῦ ἀπῆλθεν <i>Greeks (to Philip)</i> : Κύριε, θέλομεν τὸν Ἰησοῦν ἰδεῖν <i>Jesus</i> : Ἐλήλυθεν ἡ ὥρα ἵνα δοξασθῇ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου. ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἂν μὴ ὁ κόκκος τοῦ σίτου πεσὼν εἰς τὴν γῆν ἀποθάνῃ, αὐτὸς μόνος μένει· ἂν δὲ ἀποθάνῃ, πολλὴν καρπὸν φέρει. ὁ φιλῶν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἀπολλύει αὐτήν, καὶ ὁ μισῶν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ τοῦτῳ εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον φυλάξει αὐτήν. ἂν ἐμοί τις διακονῇ, ἐμοὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω, καὶ ὅπου εἰμὶ ἐγὼ ἐκεῖ καὶ ὁ διάκονος ὁ ἐμὸς ἔσται· ἂν τις ἐμοὶ διακονῇ τιμήσει αὐτὸν ὁ πατήρ. Νῦν ἡ ψυχὴ μου τετάρακται, καὶ τί εἴπω; Πάτερ, σῶσόν με ἐκ τῆς ὥρας ταύτης; ἀλλὰ διὰ τοῦτο ἦλθον εἰς τὴν ὥραν ταύτην. πάτερ, δόξασόν σου τὸ ὄνομα. <i>The voice from heaven</i> : Καὶ ἐδόξασα καὶ πάλιν δοξάσω <i>A group of the crowd</i> : Ἀγγελος αὐτῷ λελάληκεν <i>Jesus</i> : Οὐ δι' ἐμὲ ἡ φωνὴ αὕτη γέγονεν ἀλλὰ δι' ὑμᾶς. νῦν κρίσις ἐστὶν τοῦ κόσμου τούτου, νῦν ὁ ἄρχων τοῦ κόσμου τούτου ἐκβλήθησεται ἔξω· καγὼ ἂν ὑψωθῶ ἐκ τῆς γῆς, πάντας ἑλκύσω πρὸς ἑμαυτόν <i>Crowd</i> : Ἡμεῖς ἠκούσαμεν ἐκ τοῦ νόμου ὅτι ὁ Χριστὸς μένει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, καὶ πῶς λέγεις οὐ ὅτι δεῖ ὑψωθῆναι τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου; τίς ἐστὶν οὗτος ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου; <i>Jesus</i> : "Ἐτι μικρὸν χρόνον τὸ φῶς ἐν ὑμῖν ἐστίν. περιπατεῖτε ὡς τὸ φῶς ἔχετε, ἵνα μὴ σκοτία ὑμᾶς καταλάβῃ· καὶ ὁ περιπατῶν ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ οὐκ οἶδεν ποῦ ὑπάγει· ὡς τὸ φῶς ἔχετε, πιστεύετε εἰς τὸ φῶς, ἵνα υἱοὶ φωτὸς γένησθε
Slot # 4 ²⁸⁸⁹ 12:36b-50	<i>Scripture fulfillment</i> : Κύριε, τίς ἐπίστευσεν τῇ ἀκοῇ ἡμῶν; καὶ ὁ βραχίον κυρίου τίνι ἀπεκαλύφθη; <i>Scripture fulfillment</i> : Τετύφλωκεν αὐτῶν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς καὶ ἐπώρρωσεν αὐτῶν τὴν καρδίαν, ἵνα μὴ ἴδωσιν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς καὶ νοήσωσιν τῇ καρδίᾳ καὶ στραφῶσιν, καὶ ἰάσονται αὐτοὺς <i>Jesus's soliloquy</i> : Ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ πιστεύει εἰς ἐμὲ ἀλλὰ εἰς τὸν πέμψαντά με, καὶ ὁ θεωρῶν ἐμὲ θεωρεῖ τὸν πέμψαντά με. ἐγὼ φῶς εἰς τὸν κόσμον ἐλήλυθα, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ μὴ μένῃ. καὶ ἂν τις μου ἀκούσῃ τῶν ῥημάτων καὶ μὴ φυλάξῃ, ἐγὼ οὐ κρίνω αὐτόν· οὐ γὰρ ἦλθον ἵνα κρίνω τὸν κόσμον, ἀλλ' ἵνα σώσω τὸν κόσμον. ὁ ἀθετῶν ἐμὲ καὶ μὴ λαμβάνων τὰ ῥήματά μου ἔχει τὸν κρίνοντα αὐτόν· ὁ λόγος ὃν ἐλάλησα ἐκεῖνος κρινεῖ αὐτόν ἐν τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ. ὅτι ἐγὼ ἐξ ἑμαυτοῦ οὐκ ἐλάλησα, ἀλλ' ὁ πέμψας με πατήρ αὐτός μοι ἐντολὴν δέδωκεν τί εἴπω καὶ τί λαλήσω. καὶ οἶδα ὅτι ἡ ἐντολὴ αὐτοῦ ζωὴ αἰώνιος ἐστίν. ἃ οὖν ἐγὼ λαλῶ, καθὼς εἴρηκέν μοι ὁ πατήρ, οὕτως λαλῶ

Table 122: The dialogue text of 11:54-12:50

²⁸⁸⁶ The narrator is the key figure in this introductory slot. In the slot, the dialogues and dialogue trends are merged into the narrative.

²⁸⁸⁷ The Narrator presents the first two slots (11:55-57 and 12:1-11) as two parallel movements that are taking place in Jerusalem and in Bethany. The two movements are combined together in the third slot as Jesus was moving from Bethany to Jerusalem.

²⁸⁸⁸ In the third slot, the narrator combines several dialogues together and gives a recapitulation.

²⁸⁸⁹ The actual events and dialogues end with 12:36a. From v. 36b onward the narrator takes full control and recapitulates the entire BS.

13.2. Micro-Analysis

13.2.1. First Slot (11:54-57)

The first slot (11:54-57)²⁸⁹⁰ of the episode introduces a discussion about the pre-Passover and a dialogue that takes place at the Jerusalem temple.²⁸⁹¹ The narrator continues his dialogue until the break in v. 56b. After indicating about the conversation among the people and its core content in v. 56b, the narrator again takes control in v. 57. In the narratorial section 55-56a, the narrator deciphers the context of the event (τὸ πάσχα τῶν Ἰουδαίων),²⁸⁹² the purpose of the Jews (ἀνέβησαν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα ἐκ τῆς χώρας), the purpose of their journey (ἵνα ἀγέαι αὐτούς),²⁸⁹³ their search for Jesus (ἐζήτουν τὸν Ἰησοῦν), and their initiative for a dialogue with the Greeks (μετ' ἀλλήλων).²⁸⁹⁴ The expression ἔλεγον μετ' ἀλλήλων in v. 56a informs the reader of the dialogue that took place within the community (see Table 123).²⁸⁹⁵ Moloney (1998: 348) describes the narrative mechanism of the slot in the following way: "As 'the Jews' plot to slay Jesus (cf. v. 53) the people prepare for the Passover". As elsewhere, here too the Jewish plotting against Jesus is obvious (v. 57; cf. v. 53).

John 11:54-57	Overview
v.54: Ὁ οὖν Ἰησοῦς οὐκέτι παρησία περιεπάτει ἐν τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις, ἀλλὰ ἀπῆλθεν ἐκεῖθεν εἰς τὴν χώραν ἐγγὺς τῆς ἐρήμου, εἰς Ἐφραὶμ λεγομένην πόλιν, κακεῖ ἔμεινεν μετὰ τῶν μαθητῶν. v.55: Ἦν δὲ ἐγγὺς τὸ πάσχα τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ ἀνέβησαν	(1) The literary piece in 11:54-57 has only one utterance unit (v. 56b) that is implicit in the context. But, the piece has other implicit dialogic units: (a) "and he remained there with the disciples" (v. 54b); (b) "asking one another as they stood" (v. 56a).

²⁸⁹⁰ Moloney (1998: 348) considers this slot as an introduction to the succeeding slots. Here, the time of Passover and the major characters (leaders of 'the Jews' and Jesus), and the theme of Jesus' death are introduced. Also see 1971: 412-4. Talbert (1992: 179) observes that, "After an introduction (11:55-57) that locates the events near Jerusalem, the unit falls into two parts built around *first*, two days (12:1-11 and 12:12-36) and *second*, two conclusions (12:37-50 and 12:44-50)".

²⁸⁹¹ Wallace (1996: 561) says that, "John uses *hieron* ten times, all with reference to the general structure of the temple: 5:14; 7:14; 7:28; 8:20, 59; 10:23; 11:56; 18:20". Smith (1999: 232) says that, "The scene shifts to Jerusalem for the Passover (cf. Num 9:1-14) for Passover (11:55), the question about Jesus' attitude (v. 56), and the order given by the authorities (v. 57)".

²⁸⁹² Passover is one of the three pilgrim festivals for which men were required to travel to Jerusalem. This is the first and final Passover mentioned by John (cf. 2:13, 23; 6:4; see Köstenberger, 2004: 354).

²⁸⁹³ Beasley-Murray (1987: 208; cf. Strachan, 1941: 246; Bruce, 1983: 253; Hoskyns, 1947: 412-3; Witherington, 1995: 206) says that, "'Consecration' for the festival is in harmony with the Israelite ceremonial system. The cleansing, for such as needed it, was one week. Num 9:9-11 ordains that one unclean must still keep the Passover a month later".

²⁸⁹⁴ Brown (1966: 445-6) says that, "These verses constitute a transition to the following scenes. The similarity of 56-57 to 7:11, 13, suggests that an editor may be reusing traditional material from a variant account to effect a transition". Ridderbos (1987/1997: 411-2; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 364) says that, "... Jesus was known to the people who had come from far and wide is evident from what the Evangelist says about the curious looking about him and about the conversations about him in the temple". Also see Carson, 1991: 424-5; Blomberg, 2001: 172-3; Carson, 2007: 207; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 204; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 208; Bultmann, 1971: 412-4.

²⁸⁹⁵ Neyrey (2007: 207) says that, "... the question of some, 'Will he come to the feast?' and the spying of the Pharisees to learn Jesus' whereabouts, indicate that they are 'not in the know'. The secrets all belong to Jesus; insiders know, the rest are in the dark". Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 412-3; Painter, 1993: 375; Robertson, 1932: 211-2; Gaebele, 1988: 8; Carson, 1991: 424-5; Morris, 1995: 505-6; Lindars, 1972: 411-2; Barrett, 1978: 409-10.

πολλοὶ εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα ἐκ τῆς χώρας πρὸ τοῦ πάσχα ἵνα ἀγνίσωσιν αὐτούς. v.56: ἐζήτουν οὖν τὸν Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἔλεγον μετ' ἀλλήλων ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ἐστηκότες· τί δοκεῖ ὑμῖν; ὅτι οὐ μὴ ἔλθῃ εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν; v.57: δεδώκεισαν δὲ οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ οἱ Φαρισαῖοι ἐντολὰς ἵνα ἐάν τις γινῶ ποῦ ἐστὶν μνηστῆρ, ὅπως πιάσωσιν αὐτόν.	temple" (v. 56a); and (c) "the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders... should let them know" (v. 57); (2) The narratives of the slot are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 54-56a, 57) and <i>formula narrative</i> (v. 56a).
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Table 123: The dialogue of 11:54-57 within the narratorial framework

In v. 56b, the narrator broaches trends of a *community dialogue* concerning Jesus in his absence. The temple of Jerusalem is the appropriate setting for such a dialogue.²⁸⁹⁶ The narrator's tendency to recapitulate dialogues and to introduce the representative voice or the kernel points is obvious here. The content of the dialogue is excerpted in v. 56b. The questions like Τί δοκεῖ ὑμῖν; and ὅτι οὐ μὴ ἔλθῃ εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν; are at the centre of the conversation.²⁸⁹⁷ Brant (2011: 179) says that, "With the use of double negatives, the crowd implicitly articulates what the political climate is". Alongside of that, the narrative shows seams of dialogic trends. In v. 54, the narrator mentions that Jesus went to Ephraim and remained there with the disciples (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 351). The implied reader of the narrative can infer the usual tendency of interaction between Jesus and the disciples in the wilderness area.²⁸⁹⁸ Moreover, in v. 57 the narrator describes about the strict order of the chief priests and the Pharisees. The order of the chief priests and the Pharisees is mentioned in a passive voice format.²⁸⁹⁹ Their ἐντολὰς is aimed to gather information from the public concerning Jesus.²⁹⁰⁰ While the reader can only conjecture about the possibility of a dialogue in v. 54, s/he can notice the way verbal exchanges are abbreviated in vv. 56b and 57. In the first slot, the content of the dialogue can be determined mainly on the basis of the available talk units: *first*, the dialogue among the people (i.e., the coming of Jesus to the festival in an unfavourable political situation); and *second*, the commandment of the chief priests and the

²⁸⁹⁶ The expression ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ἐστηκότες ("as they stood in the temple", NRSV) is explicitly shows that the discussion happened in the temple at Jerusalem. Wallace (1996: 561) says that, "John uses ἱερόν ten times, all with reference to the general structure (2:14, 15; 5:14; 7:14; 7:28; 8:20, 59; 10:23; 11:56; 18:20). His use of ναός is restricted this pericope (2:19, 20, 21)".

²⁸⁹⁷ Bultmann (1971: 413) comments that, "The city therefore is full of pilgrims to the feast, and their reflections (v. 56) describe the situation from its inward aspect". Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 355; Painter, 1993: 375; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 208; Smith, 1999: 232.

²⁸⁹⁸ Brant (2004: 204) mentions about the "All-Too-Knowing Narrator" who explains Jesus' motives for his movements or inner disposition about them. In John's gospel, the staying away of Jesus and the disciples implicitly mean that the disciples are learning lessons from their teacher. See both the implicit and explicit references here: cf. 1:39-42; 2:12; 9:1-5; 11:7-16; 13:1-17:26; 20:1-21:25. In the Synoptic Gospels, especially in Mark, Jesus' discourses are parabolic to outsiders and interpretative to insiders (4:2-34; 7:5-23; 10:2-12; 10:13-31; cf. Achtemeier, 1992: 549).

²⁸⁹⁹ The content of the order is given in the "passive voice" as: "anyone who knew where Jesus was should let them know, so that they might arrest him" (v. 57; NRSV). Kanagaraj (2005: 381; cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 365) says that, "Their [scribes' and Pharisees'] orders are in accordance with the criminal code of the *Mishnah* which refers to a procedure by which someone who leads others into idolatry may be captured by stealth". The communication of the order would have been a "public declaration" or a "notice" to the Jewish community. Moloney (1998: 348; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 355) says that, "Their leaders had given orders: whoever knows where Jesus is should let them know so that they might arrest him (v. 57)".

²⁹⁰⁰ ἐντολὰς means "commandment", "command", "order", or "instruction. Brant (2011: 179) observes that, "By forcing ordinary citizens to become informants, the Jerusalem authorities seek comprehensive surveillance comparable to that of twentieth-century totalitarian states".

Pharisees (i.e., the whereabouts of Jesus in order to arrest him). The pericope ends with anticipation about the arrest of Jesus (v. 57b; cf. Smith, 1999: 232).

The form of the dialogue cannot easily be determined as the entire narrative shows complex and implicit natures. Mlakuzhyil (1987: 216) considers John 11:55-57 as a *transition* introduction to the succeeding section (i.e., 12:1-50). It is designed with three *implicit* seams: *first*, a teacher-and-disciples dialogue in the wilderness area; *second*, the Jews' *community dialogue* in a *question-and-answer*²⁹⁰¹ format (11:56b);²⁹⁰² and *third*, the leaders' "community dialogue in order to receive information" (11:57; see Table 124).²⁹⁰³ The *question-and-answer* format reveals the anxiety of the people concerning the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem in a particularly unfavourable situation.²⁹⁰⁴

Utterance	Form	Content
Jesus and the disciples	implicit	Unavailable (Jesus' staying away in the wilderness with the disciples can mean teaching and dialogues)
Jews among themselves	implicit, community	Will Jesus come to the festival?
Chief priests and Pharisees to the crowd	implicit, order with an expectation of response/information	Anyone who knew where Jesus was let the authorities know

Table 124: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 11:54-57

The dialogue among the people, the *order*²⁹⁰⁵ of the priests and the Pharisees, and the anticipation about an anticipated *πιάσωσιν* generate a *tension-building*²⁹⁰⁶ situation within the slot (1993: 375) comments about the slot as follows: "... the quest for Jesus continues with a certain ambiguity". Kanagaraj (2005: 380-1) says that, "John says that people were questioning another 'as they stood in the temple'. There may be an element of *irony* here. The temple is the right place to look for Jesus, because, for John, He, as the new Temple, will replace the old temple with all its rituals and sacrifices". As Painter and Kanagaraj state, the *quest for Jesus* and the *tension-building* situation contribute to the literary and theological framework of the slot. It is more probable to think that the narrator of the pericope included only the central question(s) of the conflict here.²⁹⁰⁷ The representative saying(s)²⁹⁰⁸ from a probable community dialogue and the voice utterance unit of the priests and the Pharisees make the reader cautious about the situation.

²⁹⁰¹ From the narratorial framework the reader comprehends the abbreviating tactics of the narrator. The question at v. 56 gives the reader about the kind of discussion the interlocutors were involved in. Cf. Strachan, 1941: 24; 1972: 412; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 208; Hoskyns, 1947: 412-3.

²⁹⁰² The questions at v. 56b can be understood as part of an *ongoing dialogue* among the community.

²⁹⁰³ Witherington (1995: 206) opines that, "The picture we gain from the last ten verses of John 11 is that the effort of the leaders of the Sadducees and Pharisees was involved in the trial and arrest of Jesus, which in turn shows that he was seen as a considerable political threat, since these two groups often did not see eye to eye".

²⁹⁰⁴ Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 413-4; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 364-5; Carson, 1991: 424; Talbert, 1992: 179-80.

²⁹⁰⁵ The Greek expression *ἐντολὰς* can mean "commandment", "command", "order" or "instruction". (1987/1997: 412) considers it as an "express order".

²⁹⁰⁶ *Tension-building* is one of the characteristic features of Johannine drama. Through *tension-building*, the narrator generates suspense in the minds of the readers, and leads the story to another level.

²⁹⁰⁷ It is again the usual Johannine trend to abbreviate the dialogues applied here too. From the expression *ἀλλήλων* the reader can assume that it is an abbreviation of a larger dialogue.

²⁹⁰⁸ The questions emerged among the community are put together and included herewith.

abbreviating tendencies of the narrator.²⁹⁰⁹ The *narrative-driven* slot and its abbreviated utterance units reveal an open conflict and an antagonistic declaration on account of Jesus.

At the functional level, the introduction of the Passover (τὸ πάσχα), the festivity of the people, the purification ceremony (ἀγνίσωσιν), the pilgrimage context (ἀνέβησαν . . . εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα), and the standing of the people in the temple (τῷ ἱερῷ ἐστηκότες) together provide a religious atmosphere for the first slot.²⁹¹⁰ At the same time a paradigmatic reader can notice several layers of conflicts at work all through the discussions (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 351-65). The conflicting situation is evident through the conversational threads of the public order and of the community discussion about the coming of Jesus.²⁹¹¹ The order (ἐντολὰς) of the chief priests/the Pharisees and the anticipated arrest (πιάσωσιν) bring about a conflicting situation at the beginning of the episode. The Jewish religio-political establishments are in conflict with the emerging movement of Jesus.²⁹¹² The crowd's *conversation* in the temple has to be looked at from this specific context. The *religious* and *violent* context of the slot functions in a characteristic way within the overall framework of the episode. Mlakuzhyil (1987: 216; cf. Elam, 1980: 135-91) opines that, "... 11:55-57 provides the *dramatic setting* for the events to be described in John 12".²⁹¹³ The utterance units are anticipatory as they lead the reader toward the following sort of questions: "Will Jesus come to the festival?", "Will the chief priests and the Pharisees come to know the whereabouts of Jesus?", and "Will he be arrested?"²⁹¹⁴ In this sense, the current slot has *proleptic* functions as it prepares the reader toward the future events and the dialogues (cf. Dodd, 1960: 367-8; Strachan, 1941: 246).²⁹¹⁵

13.2.2. Second Slot (12:1-11)

The setting of the narrative is an occasion of δεῖπνον.²⁹¹⁶ The reader of the story can conjecture about a round-table discussion of a group comprised of Jesus and his disciples at the family setting

²⁹⁰⁹ The reader may conjecture that the dialogic threads in 11:56 and 57 are abbreviations of extended dialogues.

²⁹¹⁰ Cf. Gaebelein, 1936: 217; Lindars, 1972: 411-2; Hoskyns, 1947: 412-3; Morris, 1995: 505-6.

²⁹¹¹ The public dialogue in 11:56b and the order of the chief priests and Pharisees decide the nature of the conflict here. Jesus' coming to the temple might worsen the situation as the scribes and Pharisees have strictly ordered to the crowd in order to receive information. Cf. Painter, 1993: 375; Lindars, 1972: 411-2; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 208; Morris, 1995: 505-6; Carson, 1991: 424-5; Barrett, 1978: 409-10; Robertson, 1932: 211-2.

²⁹¹² See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 208; Robertson, 1932: 211-2; Bruce, 1983: 252-3; Hoskyns, 1947: 412-3.

²⁹¹³ Gaebelein (1936: 218) is of the opinion that, "... the Christ was not in their hands. Before He laid down His life voluntarily, before His hour came, he must be presented to Jerusalem as *King* openly".

²⁹¹⁴ Keener (2003: 2: 858-9; cf. Smith, 1999: 232; Tan, 1993: 50-89) states that, "... John again builds suspense as his narrative begins to climax in Jesus' final coming to, and suffering in, Jerusalem".

²⁹¹⁵ Stibbe (1993: 131) says that, "The double mention of the third and final Passover of the Gospel in 11:55 prepares the reader for the sacrifice of Jesus at Golgotha". Moloney (2005: 234; cf. Talbert, 1992: 179-88; Eco, 1979: 3-43) states that, "... Jesus' violent end looms, as his arrest is promulgated by the chief priests and the Pharisees (vv. 55-57). The hour has come for glorification of the Son by means of his being lifted up on the cross (see v. 4; 12:23). The cross looms large as the reader moves to 12:1-8".

²⁹¹⁶ Martha, Lazarus, Mary, Judas Iscariot, the other disciples, and most importantly Jesus himself, are present in this slot. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 213-4; Gaebelein, 1936: 218-9; Bruce, 1983: 255-6; Talbert, 1992: 183-4. Δεῖπνον (noun), means, a "feast", "banquet", "supper", or "main meal". Cf. Carson, 1991: 427; Morris, 1995: 511-2; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 208-9; Hoskyns, 1947: 413-4; Barrett, 1978: 410-1.

of Lazarus, Martha and Mary.²⁹¹⁷ The expressions at vv. 2b-3a²⁹¹⁸ do not provide a clear about the exact nature of the gathering. Similarly, though a group of people are present at the set up, there is no clarity of their discussion. Moloney (1998: 349) says that, “Having set the and already insinuated the theme of Jesus’ death, the narrator introduces Mary and her anointing of Jesus.”²⁹¹⁹ The gap created by the prolepsis of 11:2 is filled and she is described as anointing Jesus’ feet and wiping them with her hair (v. 3a).²⁹²⁰ This general information of the setting is helpful in order to understand the dialogue at vv. 5-8 (see Table 125).

John 12:1-11	Overview
v.1: Ὁ οὖν Ἰησοῦς πρὸ ἑξ ἡμερῶν τοῦ πάσχα ἦλθεν εἰς Βηθανίαν, ὅπου ἦν Λάζαρος, ὃν ἤγειρεν ἐκ νεκρῶν Ἰησοῦς.	(1) The dialogue in 12:1-11 comprised of two utterances (vv. 5, 7b-8); out of the two utterance units one is of Judas Iscariot (v. 5) and the other is of Jesus (vv. 7b-8);
v.2: ἐποίησαν οὖν αὐτῷ δειπνον ἐκεῖ, καὶ ἡ Μάρθα διηκόνει, ὁ δὲ Λάζαρος εἷς ἦν ἐκ τῶν ἀνακειμένων σὺν αὐτῷ.	(2) The narrator adds implicit commentary at v. 4 (“the one who was about to betray him”) (“He said this not because about the poor, but because a thief; he kept the commode and used to steal what was it”) in order to provide more about Judas Iscariot;
v.3: Ἡ οὖν Μαριάμ λαβοῦσα λίτρον μύρου νάρδου πιστικῆς πολυτίμου ἠλείψεν τοὺς πόδας τοῦ Ἰησοῦ καὶ ἐξέμαξεν αὐτῇς θριξίν αὐτῆς τοὺς πόδας αὐτοῦ· ἡ δὲ οἰκία ἐπληρώθη ἐκ τῆς ὁσμῆς τοῦ μύρου.	(3) The narratives of the event are: <i>pure narrative</i> (vv. 1-11) and <i>formula narrative</i> (7a).
v.4: λέγει δὲ Ἰούδας ὁ Ἰσκαριώτης εἷς [ἐκ] τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ, ὁ μέλλων αὐτὸν παραδιδόναι·	
v.5: διὰ τί τοῦτο τὸ μύρον οὐκ ἐπράθη τριακοσίων δηναρίων καὶ ἐδόθη τοῖς πτωχοῖς;	
v.6: εἶπεν δὲ τοῦτο οὐχ ὅτι περὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ἔμελει αὐτῷ, ἀλλ’ ὅτι κλέπτης ἦν καὶ τὸ γλωσσόκομον ἔχων τὰ βαλλόμενα ἐβάσταζεν.	
v.7: εἶπεν οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἄφες αὐτήν, ἵνα εἰς τὴν ἡμέραν τοῦ ἐνταφιασμοῦ μου τηρήσῃ αὐτό·	
v.8: τοὺς πτωχοὺς γὰρ πάντοτε ἔχετε μεθ’ ἑαυτῶν, ἐμὲ δὲ οὐ πάντοτε ἔχετε.	
v.9: Ἔγνων οὖν [ὁ] ὄχλος πολὺς ἐκ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ὅτι ἐκεῖ ἐστὶν καὶ ἦλθον οὐ διὰ τὸν Ἰησοῦν μόνον, ἀλλ’ ἵνα καὶ τὸν Λάζαρον ἴδωσιν ὃν ἤγειρεν ἐκ νεκρῶν.	
v.10: ἐβουλεύσαντο δὲ οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς ἵνα καὶ τὸν Λάζαρον ἀποκτείνωσιν,	
v.11: ὅτι πολλοὶ δι’ αὐτὸν ὑπῆγον τῶν Ἰουδαίων καὶ ἐπίστευον εἰς τὸν Ἰησοῦν.	

Table 125: The dialogue of 12:1-11 within the narratorial framework

Mary’s action of anointing Jesus’ feet and wiping them with her hair provokes Judas Iscariot to come up with his question, *Διὰ τί τοῦτο τὸ μύρον οὐκ ἐπράθη τριακοσίων δηναρίων καὶ ἐδόθη τοῖς πτωχοῖς;* (v. 5; cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 864-5; McGregor, 1928: 260).²⁹²¹ John’s presentation

²⁹¹⁷ Bultmann (1971: 414) says that, “. . . the incident takes place six days before the Passover, in the banquet. It is not said who the host is. It is simply reported that Mary anoints the feet of Jesus and wipes the hair (v. 3)”. Cf. Lindars, 1972: 415-7; Robertson, 1932: 213-6; Painter, 1993: 375; Strachan, 1941: 246-8.

²⁹¹⁸ The expression ὁ δὲ Λάζαρος εἷς ἦν ἐκ τῶν ἀνακειμένων σὺν αὐτῷ creates confusion for the reader to the exact nature of the group. Cf. Morris, 1995: 510-2; Carson, 1991: 427-8.

²⁹¹⁹ Compare the anointing of Jesus at Bethany in Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; Luke 7:36-38 (cf. Carson, 1991: 425). See the comparison between Mark 14:3-9 and John 12:1-8 (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 209).

²⁹²⁰ Moloney (1998: 349) further says that, “It is the love of Mary, anticipated in her response to the voice of Jesus in 11:28-32, that fills the house with fragrance. Contrast enters, and the theme of Jesus’ passion returns, as Judas Iscariot, already known to the reader as the betrayer (cf. 6:64, 71), is introduced (v. 4)”.

²⁹²¹ The sum of ‘three hundred *denarii* (RSV), the value of the perfume, must not be estimated according to the modern value of an equivalent amount of silver, but according to wages and purchasing power. One *denarius* was the daily wage given to a common day-labourer; three hundred *denarii* was therefore the equivalent of *an year*’s wage of a fully employed labourer. Pliny (*Nat.* 12.26) describes nard, the foremost perfume in the Greco-Roman world, as a sweet-scented, lightweight oil, with a dark ruddy hue (cf. Brant, 2011: 179). See Carson, 1991: 429; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 100.

as a greedy and unrighteous man is brought through the narratorial notes at vv. 4 and 6 (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 124-5; Brant, 2004: 205).²⁹²² While Mary's character reveals through her action (v. 3),²⁹²³ Judas' character reveals through his utterance (v. 5).²⁹²⁴ Jesus' response to Judas is as follows: "Ἀφες αὐτήν, ἵνα εἰς τὴν ἡμέραν τοῦ ἐνταφιασμοῦ μου τηρήσῃ αὐτό· τοὺς πτωχοὺς γὰρ πάντοτε ἔχετε μεθ' ἑαυτῶν, ἐγὼ δὲ οὐ πάντοτε ἔχετε (vv. 7-8; cf. Eslinger, 2000: 45-73; Gench, 2007: 95; see Table 125). His response to Judas reveals some of the important things as follows: Mary's good intention behind her activity, his imminent death and burial,²⁹²⁵ Judas' fake intention behind his utterance, and the temporality of Jesus' being with them (cf. Dodd, 1960: 369-70; Webster, 2003: 91-9).²⁹²⁶ Jesus' utterance remains as an evaluative statement between the two discipleship models, one of Mary and the other of Judas Iscariot (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 131-2; Coloe, 2007: 120-1). The slot ends with another narrative section (vv. 9-11) describing about the itinerary of the great crowd, telling about the Jewish plan of killing both Jesus and Lazarus, about the deserting of the Jews from their mother-religion, and about the rapid increase of the 'believing' community (cf. Strachan, 1941: 249; McGregor, 1928: 260-1). Bultmann (1971: 416) considers the last narrative section (vv. 9-11) as a bridge passage.²⁹²⁷ Two parallel movements are at work within the slot, one of Jesus at Lazarus' house involved in a *dialogue* and the other of Jewish *search* for Jesus and Lazarus.²⁹²⁸ The content of the dialogue can be understood as an internal conflict as Judas reveals his counterfeit discipleship model through his speech over against the genuine discipleship model of Mary's action.

1987: 208-9; Esler and Piper, 2006: 165-77; Robertson, 1932: 215; Morris, 1995: 511-3. Wallace (1996: 122) observes the use of "Genitive of Price or Value or Quantity" in v. 5 as in the case of 6:7.

²⁹²² Keener (2003: 2: 864; cf. Coloe, 2007: 120-1; Culpepper, 1983: 124-5) says that, "John's remark that Judas was not concerned for the poor (12:6) underlines Judas' evil character; he employs the same term for 'unconcerned' here as he earlier employed for the hirelings who did not care for the shepherd's flock in 10:13—a context in which false leaders of the flock also earn the title 'thief' (10:1, 8, 10; 12:6)".

²⁹²³ Lindars (1972: 412; cf. Robertson, 1932: 217-8; Bruce, 1983: 255-6; Carson, 1991: 428; Brant, 2011: 184-5) says that, "A woman, here identified with Mary the sister of Martha, apparently moved by some spontaneous impulse, pours an expensive perfumed oil over Jesus' feet. When Judas objects to her extravagance, Jesus defends her action as a symbolic anticipation of his burial".

²⁹²⁴ Stibbe (1993: 131) says that, "Judas is centre-stage in 12:4-6. Here the narrator departs from the normal reticence about the psychology of characters to explain what was going on in Judas' mind". Stibbe (1993: 132; cf. Strachan, 1941: 248) further says that, "Far from being a laudable statement, Judas' words in v. 5 are now seen as arising from a deep-seated and perverse avarice". For more details about John's vilification of Judas, refer to Brant, 2011: 182-4.

²⁹²⁵ Neyrey (2007: 210; cf. Moloney, 2005: 236; Strachan, 1941: 248) says that, "Both Mark and John see a hidden meaning in the anointing that only insiders comprehend, namely anticipation of Jesus' burial. The preparation of the body for burial, a female act of piety, typically consisted of washing the corpse, clothing it in funeral clothes, and anointing it with oils and spices. Jesus honours the woman's gesture, calling it 'a noble work'".

²⁹²⁶ Neyrey (2007: 208) states that, "In acknowledgement of the benefaction Jesus gave Lazarus, they host him at a meal. We learn then that Jesus' enemies now target Lazarus for another death because the fame of his revivification has caused Jesus to grow in honour and fame—at their expense (12:9-11; see also 11:45-51). Lazarus' death and tomb, then, are linked with Jesus' death and tomb, indicators of elite status".

²⁹²⁷ Robertson (1932: 213; cf. Painter, 1993: 374-5) states that, "It was a place of danger now after that great miracle and the consequent rage of the Sanhedrin (12:9-11). The crowd of eager spectators to see both Lazarus and Jesus would only intensify this rage".

²⁹²⁸ Cf. Robertson, 1932: 213-9; Strachan, 1941: 246-9; Painter, 1993: 374-5; Lindars, 1972: 415-20.

The second slot (12:1-11)²⁹²⁹ is made up of narratives again, and can be considered as *within an event*.²⁹³⁰ The slot altogether is narrative-driven. While Judas raises a *question in disguise*, Jesus uses *defensive/enigmatic/revelatory* utterance forms (cf. Talbert, 1999; Webster, 2003: 91-9; see Table 126). A *challenge-and-riposte* in a *question-and-answer* format is introduced here by the help of narratorial remarks at vv. 4 and 6.²⁹³¹ Keener (1999: 864-6) considers this dialogue as one that develops from Judas' *protest* to Jesus' *response*. Judas' character's *symbolic action* (cf. Coloe, 2007: 120-2; Webster, 2003: 93-4)²⁹³³ prompts other characters to engage in a *question-and-answer dialogue*.²⁹³⁴ In that sense, the slot has an *exchange dialogue* pattern. The formula expressions like λέγει (v. 4) and εἶπεν (v. 7) are used to introduce the utterances of the characters.²⁹³⁵ At a peripheral level Judas' question poses a concern; but the placement of his question (v. 5) between two *narratorial notes* (in v. 4 and Jesus' response (v. 7) decide its intentionality. Here Judas' character resembles in many ways the character of Jesus' opponents (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 211; Stibbe, 1993: 131-2).

Utterance	Form	Content
Judas Iscariot	A question in disguise	Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?
Jesus	Defensive statements, enigmatic utterances, revelatory statement, contrast/antithetical statement	Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.

Table 126: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 12:1-11

While in the previous slot the priests and the Pharisees represent the opponents (11:57-66), in the second slot Judas reveals his antagonistic attitude through his very utterance (12:5; cf. Braaten, 2002: 222). While Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 368) considers Judas' statement as a "dishonest in the eyes of the law", Ridderbos (1987/1997: 415) considers it as "regret of a thief".²⁹³⁶ Judas' criticism of Mary is objection-focused and antagonistic. Jesus' answer at vv. 7-8 can be considered as a ne-

²⁹²⁹ Neyrey (2007: 211) says that, "The dramatis personae in John are often representative of some virtue or characterised in terms of high or low status within a group". Cf. Brown, 1966: 452-4; Köstenberger, 2000: 200; Gaebelien, 1936: 218-22; Carson, 1991: 427-31.

²⁹³⁰ The event at 12:1-11 turns the readers' acumen toward an entirely different set up, different from the first slot (11:55-57) and the latter (12: 12-36a). Both in the previous and the latter slots, the narrator is telling about the Jerusalem set up; but here the setting is in Bethany.

²⁹³¹ Cf. Bultmann, 1971: 414-5; Painter, 1993: 375-6; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 207.

²⁹³² Gench (2007: 95) considers it as Judas' *protest (objections)*, in Coloe, 2007:120) and Jesus' *defense* (cf. Webster, 2003: 91) of Mary.

²⁹³³ Maniparampil (2004: 300; cf. Smith, 1999: 233-5) states that, "In the raising of Lazarus, Jesus died symbolically. Now the burial takes place symbolically".

²⁹³⁴ According to Gench (2007: 94; cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 300; Carson, 1991: 425-6; Smith, 1999: 233-5) all the four gospels feature an anointing of Jesus by a woman (Mark 14:3-9/Matthew 26:6-13; Luke 7:36-50), but each with distinctive features and should be examined on its own terms Only in John is the woman identified as Mary, the sister of Lazarus who was raised from the dead".

²⁹³⁵ Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 367-9; Witherington, 1995: 207-8; Gench, 2007: 95.

²⁹³⁶ Some interpreters believe that this comment can be explained in terms of the tendency, which grew in the early church, to depict the character of Judas as worse and worse. Ridderbos (1987/1997: 416) states further that the intent of the Evangelist, it seems to us, is the attempt to find in this comment about Judas' motivation a contact for a (frequently attempted) psychological interpretation of the figure of Judas, and that with a "counter figure".

the proposal of Judas (see Table 126).²⁹³⁷ Moloney (1998: 349; cf. Eslinger, 2000: 45-73) says that, "This juxtaposition of Mary's superabundant generosity, reflecting her love, and Judas' hypocritical objection based in self-interest poses the question: has the woman or the disciple rightly understood the significance of Jesus?"²⁹³⁸ While Mlakuzhyil (1987: 217-20) sees *narrative parallelisms* between 11:1-54 and 11:55-12:50,²⁹³⁹ Witherington (1995: 207) notifies the presence of a typical Johannine *irony* within the slot.²⁹⁴⁰ In vv. 9-11 the narrator continues his account of the dramatic development and at the same time inserts the story of the anointing into the sequence of events (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 370; Brant, 2011: 180-1). The major tenets of the dialogue are its *question-and-answer/challenge-and-riposte format* and *action-to-dialogue sequence*.

The slot²⁹⁴¹ has a revelatory function that works within a conflict-oriented milieu.²⁹⁴² Judas' *villainous character*²⁹⁴³ or *counterfeit discipleship model* is in conflict with Mary's *genuine discipleship model* (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 211).²⁹⁴⁴ Stibbe (1993: 132) opines that, "it is noticeable that the principal female character in the narrative [i.e., Mary] comes in for Jesus' commendation while the principal male [i.e., Judas] comes in for condemnation". By unraveling the character of Judas, the narrator is attempting to reveal the underlying conflict within the inner-circle of Jesus.²⁹⁴⁵ This conflict-ridden situation is appropriately set within the narrative in order to understand the dynamism of Judas' question (v. 5) and Jesus' response (v. 7-8).²⁹⁴⁶ Moreover, the conflict between the Sanhedrin and the Jesus community is once again conspicuous when the chief priests plan to put Lazarus as well to death.²⁹⁴⁷ The narrator's technique of presenting the dialogues

²⁹³⁷ Maniparampil (2004: 300; cf. Smith, 1999: 233-5) opines that, "Jesus interprets the anointing of the *feet* of Jesus by Mary as a gesture for Jesus' burial. It is an unconscious prophesy of Jesus' death".

²⁹³⁸ Painter (1993: 375) points out that, "This action suggests a comparison with the washing of the disciples' feet by Jesus. At the final meal Jesus acted as servant to the disciples and washed their feet. This action was a parable of his life-giving work for them . . . The sinister role of Judas is highlighted in both but the focus is on Mary in the first and Peter in the second suggesting that a comparison between the two is intended". Cf. Carson, 1991: 428-30; Bultmann, 1971: 415; Blomberg, 2001: 177; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 206; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 208-9.

²⁹³⁹ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 217-20) sees *narrative parallelism* between 11:1-54 and 11:55-12:50 especially in 12:3 (11:2), 12:11 (11:45), and 12:10 (11:53). Moreover, while 12:1-11 shows several *analeptic* tendencies with 11:1-54, Jesus' utterance in 12:7-8 shows *proleptic* tendencies.

²⁹⁴⁰ Witherington (1995: 207) states that, "The story contains very typical Johannine irony, in that the place where Jesus gave life to the dead (12:1) becomes the place where '[s]eated beside Lazarus, whom he *called out of the tomb* (12:7), He is anointed as one would anoint a corpse".

²⁹⁴¹ Although modern readers of the gospels immediately link John's story of the anointing of Jesus' feet with two other ones, Mark 14:3-9 and Luke 7:36-38, we are uncertain about the relationship of these seemingly parallel accounts. Some argue that all of these reflect a single anointing story, and others see different stories in the background. See Neyrey, 2007: 208; Smith, 1999: 233-5.

²⁹⁴² Keener (2003: 2: 859; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 94; Moloney, 2005: 236-7) says, "Most of chap. 12 is transitional, closing Jesus' public ministry and (with 11:45-57) leading into the Passion Narrative".

²⁹⁴³ As a betrayer (*παραδιδόναι*), as an uncaring person (*ὅτι περὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ἔμελεν αὐτῷ*), as a thief (*κλέπτης*), and as a person who steals (*ἐβάσταζεν*). Cf. Stibbe, 1993: 132; Blomberg, 2001: 175-8; Carson, 1991: 425-30; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 204-8; Neyrey, 2007: 208-11.

²⁹⁴⁴ Painter (1993: 375) states that, "The anointing at Bethany is set within the framework of the story of the raising up of Lazarus and the stated outcome of that event".

²⁹⁴⁵ Keener (2003: 2: 859) notes that, "The smaller units (11:45-46, 54-57; 12:9-11) in this section underline the mixed response to Jesus; the two longest units, however, contrast the high priests (11:47-53) and Mary (12:1-8), while linking Judas with the attitude of the Judean elite (12:4-6)". Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 414-6; Barrett, 1978: 410-4; Carson, 1991: 427-31; Gaebele, 1936: 218-22.

²⁹⁴⁶ Cf. Barrett, 1978: 413-4; Carson, 1991: 429-30; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 208-9; Strachan, 1941: 248.

²⁹⁴⁷ Cf. Painter, 1993: 374-5; Robertson, 1932: 218-9; Kanagaraj, 2005: 392-3; Lindars, 1972: 419-20.

15) is referred as the fulfillment of Zech 9:9 (cf. Menken, 1996: 79-97; Kubiš, 2012: 27-114).²⁹⁵⁶ *Second*, the Pharisaic dialogue among themselves (v. 19)²⁹⁵⁷ can be reckoned as an *exclamation of fear* due to Jesus' performance of sign(s), his popularity, and the crowd's continued witness about him (vv. 17-18).²⁹⁵⁸ The Pharisees' central point of discussion among themselves is recorded in v. 19b, Θεωρεῖτε ὅτι οὐκ ὠφελεῖτε οὐδέν· ἴδε ὁ κόσμος ὀπίσω αὐτοῦ ἀπῆλθεν (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 419; see Table 127).²⁹⁵⁹

John 12:12-36a	Overview
<p>v.12: Τῇ ἐπαύριον ὁ ὄχλος πολλὸς ὁ ἐλθὼν εἰς τὴν ἑορτήν, ἀκούσαντες ὅτι ἔρχεται ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα</p> <p>v.13: ἔλαβον τὰ βαῖα τῶν φοινίκων καὶ ἐξῆλθον εἰς ὑπάντησιν αὐτῷ καὶ ἐκραύγαζον· ὡσαννά· εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος ἐν ὀνόματι κυρίου, [καὶ] ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῦ Ἰσραήλ.</p> <p>v.14: εὐρῶν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὄναριον ἐκάθισεν ἐπ' αὐτό, καθὼς ἔστιν γεγραμμένον·</p> <p>v.15: μὴ φοβοῦ, θυγάτηρ Σιών· ἰδοὺ ὁ βασιλεὺς σου ἔρχεται, καθήμενος ἐπὶ πῶλον ὄνου.</p> <p>v.16: ταῦτα οὐκ ἔγνωσαν αὐτοῦ οἱ μαθηταὶ τὸ πρῶτον, ἀλλ' ὅτε ἐδοξάσθη Ἰησοῦς τότε ἐμνήσθησαν ὅτι ταῦτα ἦν ἐπ' αὐτῷ γεγραμμένα καὶ ταῦτα ἐποίησαν αὐτῷ.</p> <p>v.17: ἐμαρτύρει οὖν ὁ ὄχλος ὁ ὢν μετ' αὐτοῦ ὅτε τὸν Λάζαρον ἐφώνησεν ἐκ τοῦ μνημείου καὶ ἤγειρεν αὐτὸν ἐκ νεκρῶν.</p> <p>v.18: διὰ τοῦτο [καὶ] ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ὁ ὄχλος, ὅτι ἤκουσαν τοῦτο αὐτὸν πεποιηκέναι τὸ σημεῖον.</p> <p>v.19: οἱ οὖν Φαρισαῖοι εἶπαν πρὸς ἑαυτούς· θεωρεῖτε ὅτι οὐκ ὠφελεῖτε οὐδέν· ἴδε ὁ κόσμος ὀπίσω αὐτοῦ ἀπῆλθεν.</p> <p>v.20: Ἦσαν δὲ Ἕλληνες τινες ἐκ τῶν ἀναβαινόντων ἵνα προσκυνήσωσιν ἐν τῇ ἑορτῇ·</p> <p>v.21: οὗτοι οὖν προσῆλθον Φίλιππῳ τῷ ἀπὸ Βηθσαϊδᾶ τῆς Γαλιλαίας καὶ ἠρώτων αὐτὸν λέγοντες· κύριε, θέλομεν τὸν Ἰησοῦν ἰδεῖν.</p> <p>v.22: ἔρχεται ὁ Φίλιππος καὶ λέγει τῷ Ἀνδρέᾳ, ἔρχεται Ἀνδρέας καὶ Φίλιππος καὶ λέγουσιν τῷ Ἰησοῦ.</p> <p>v.23: ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς ἀποκρίνεται αὐτοῖς λέγων· ἐλήλυθεν ἡ ὥρα ἵνα δοξασθῇ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.</p> <p>v.24: ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐὰν μὴ ὁ κόκκος τοῦ σίτου πεσὼν εἰς τὴν γῆν ἀποθάνῃ, αὐτὸς μόνος μένει· ἐὰν δὲ ἀποθάνῃ, πολλὸν καρπὸν φέρει.</p> <p>v.25: ὁ φιλῶν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἀπολλύει αὐτήν, καὶ ὁ μισῶν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ τούτῳ εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον φυλάξει αὐτήν.</p> <p>v.26: ἐὰν ἐμοὶ τις διακονῇ, ἐμοὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω, καὶ ὅπου εἰμὶ ἐγὼ ἐκεῖ καὶ ὁ διάκονος ὁ ἐμὸς ἔσται· ἐὰν τις ἐμοὶ διακονῇ τιμήσει αὐτὸν ὁ πατήρ.</p> <p>v.27: Νῦν ἡ ψυχὴ μου τετάρακται, καὶ τί εἴπω; πάτερ, σῶσόν με ἐκ τῆς ὥρας ταύτης; ἀλλὰ διὰ τοῦτο ἦλθον εἰς τὴν ὥραν ταύτην.</p>	<p>(1) The dialogue in vv. 12-36a is comprised of ten utterance units (vv. 13b, 19b, 21b, 23b-28a, 28b, 29a, 29b, 30b-32, 34b, 35b-36a); out of the ten utterance units four are of the crowd (v. 13b: is in the form of a hymn; vv. 29a, 29b: implicit dialogue; and v. 34b: response to Jesus), one is implicit within the Pharisaic community (v. 19b), one is of the Greeks (v. 21b), one is in the form of a heavenly voice (v. 28b), and three are of Jesus (vv. 23b-28a, 30b-32, 35b-36a);</p> <p>(2) The narratives</p>

originally been sung as a greeting to pilgrims entering the city during the feast, there is some evidence that it had come to be applied particularly in early Judaism to the coming of the Messiah to the city (cf. *m. Tehillim* [Midrash on Psalms] 244a). See Morris, 1995: 519-20; Strachan, 1941: 250.

²⁹⁵⁶ Hoskyns (1947: 420; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 133; Witherington, 1995: 221) says that, "The whole passage in Zech 9:9-10, of which the action of Jesus is a conscious fulfillment". Neyrey (2007: 212) says that, "Significant Johannine editorial changes occur in the bracketing of the event with mention of Lazarus' being raised from death (12:9-11, 17-19), indicating how significant a sign this was and how ironic it is that raising the dead would cause the death of the one who performed it".

²⁹⁵⁷ The expression εἶπαν πρὸς ἑαυτούς supports the view of a dialogue. Cf. Morris, 1995: 523.

²⁹⁵⁸ The expression ἴδε ὁ κόσμος ὀπίσω αὐτοῦ ἀπῆλθεν is an exclamation derived out of the fear of Jesus' wider popularity. See Painter, 1993: 376; Dodd, 1960: 371; Resseguie, 2001: 37.

²⁹⁵⁹ This central utterance can be considered as part of their continued discussion among themselves about Jesus. Witherington (1995: 222; cf. Brant, 2004: 60, 100, 183) states that, "The importance of the evangelist's including v. 19, which is not found in the synoptics, is that it reflects on and aptly addresses the situation for which this gospel was written—a missionary situation in which all sorts of people, both Jewish and otherwise, were coming to Christ and inquiring about him".

v.28: πάτερ, δόξασόν σου τὸ ὄνομα. ἦλθεν οὖν φωνὴ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ· καὶ ἐδόξασα καὶ πάλιν δοξάσω.	of the episode pure narrative
v.29: ὁ οὖν ὄχλος ὁ ἐστὼς καὶ ἀκούσας ἔλεγεν βροντὴν γεγονέναι, ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· ἄγγελος αὐτῷ λελάληκεν.	12-13a, 14-21a, 22, 28-33) and for narrative (19a, 21a, 229a, 29b, 335a).
v.30: ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν· οὐ δι' ἐμὲ ἡ φωνὴ αὕτη γέγονεν ἀλλὰ δι' ὑμᾶς.	
v.31: νῦν κρίσις ἐστὶν τοῦ κόσμου τούτου, νῦν ὁ ἄρχων τοῦ κόσμου τούτου ἐκβληθήσεται ἔξω·	
v.32: καὶ γὰρ ἐὰν ὑψωθῶ ἐκ τῆς γῆς, πάντας ἑλκύσω πρὸς ἐμαυτόν.	
v.33: τοῦτο δὲ ἔλεγεν σημαίνων ποίῳ θανάτῳ ἤμελλεν ἀποθνήσκειν.	
v.34: Ἀπεκρίθη οὖν αὐτῷ ὁ ὄχλος· ἡμεῖς ἠκούσαμεν ἐκ τοῦ νόμου ὅτι ὁ χριστὸς μένει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, καὶ πῶς λέγεις σὺ ὅτι δεῖ ὑψωθῆναι τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου; τίς ἐστὶν οὗτος ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου;	
v.35: εἶπεν οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἔτι μικρὸν χρόνον τὸ φῶς ἐν ὑμῖν ἐστίν. περιπατεῖτε ὥς τὸ φῶς ἔχετε, ἵνα μὴ σκοτία ὑμᾶς καταλάβῃ· καὶ ὁ περιπατῶν ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ οὐκ οἶδεν ποῦ ὑπάγει.	
v.36a: ὥς τὸ φῶς ἔχετε, πιστεύετε εἰς τὸ φῶς, ἵνα υἱοὶ φωτὸς γένησθε.	

Table 127: The dialogue of 12:12-36a within the narratorial framework

Third, a network of dialogue happens among the characters, the Greeks appear and dialogue with Philip, Philip with Andrew, Philip and Andrew with Jesus, and finally Jesus' response to the Greeks (vv. 20b-27).²⁹⁶¹ The circle of dialogue begins with Greeks' request to Philip: "θέλομεν τὸν Ἰησοῦν ἰδεῖν" (v. 21b; cf. Painter, 1989: 31).²⁹⁶² Carson (1991: 425; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 136; Neyrey, 2007: 213-4) opines that, "... the arrival of the Greeks seeking Jesus sends a signal that the 'hour'²⁹⁶³ is at hand, and this generates a mixture of dialogue and monologue

²⁹⁶⁰ There are dialogic dynamism happening here also as the Greeks discuss with Philip, Philip with Andrew, and Andrew with Jesus, and finally, Jesus with all. Though, Jesus' talk maintains a monologic structure. The involvement of various characters lead the reader to the point of an interaction among the characters. Line 12:27; cf. Robertson, 1932: 224; Gaebelein, 1936: 226-7; Morris, 1995: 525; Strachan, 1941: 253) says that, [i.e., Greek] denotes all those who came within the orbit of Greek culture, and so often means Greek-speakers who are designated Hellenists (Acts 6:1)". Kossen (1970: 97) says that, "There is no consensus of opinion on the question whether the Greeks referred to here were Greek-speaking Jews of the diaspora or non-Jews. Most scholars support the second alternative. Some of them speak of 'proselytes', others of 'Godfearers'". In the Gospel of John (Bultmann (1950: 323) and Dodd (1960: 371), the evangelist looks upon these Greeks as being representative of the Greek world. Kossen (1970: 98) further says that, "A similar difference of opinion exists with regard to John 12:23 second passage in this gospel containing a reference to Greeks . . . These Greeks whom Jesus is assumed to teach were non-Jews, according to the majority of the experts".

²⁹⁶¹ Neyrey (2007: 213) says that, "This brief story contains two scenes: disciples networking to provide Jesus; and the sayings of Jesus to those brought to him".

²⁹⁶² Witherington (1995: 223; cf. Wallace, 1996: 147-8) states that, "The Greeks are said to approach Philip at Bethsaida (v. 21), asking to see Jesus. Perhaps they approached him because he is one of two disciples with Greek names, perhaps because Philip was from a city where there may have been many Greek-speaking God-fearers" (Josephus, *War* 6.427).

²⁹⁶³ For more details about the "hour of Jesus", refer to Moloney, 1998: 351-2; Barrett, 1978: 422-3; Bruce, 1983: 470-1, 75; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 211; Robertson, 1932: 225; Bruce, 1983: 263-4. Painter (1993: 376) opines that, "the focus falls on the characteristically Johannine saying concerning the hour of the glorification of the Son (12:23) which is elaborated in the following dialogue by Jesus with aid from 'the Father' and the narrator (12:30-33, 35-36a)".

²⁹⁶⁴ Carson (1991: 437) puts it, "Up to this point, the 'hour' has always been future (2:4; 4:21, 23; 7:30) 'hour' that is nothing less than the appointed time for Jesus' death, resurrection and exaltation—in other words, glorification". Cf. Moloney, 1998: 351; Barrett, 1978: 420-9; Stibbe, 1993: 136; Bultmann, 1971: 420-2.

Jesus' response (cf. vv. 23-28a) is implicit as it has dialogical sequence with the request of the Greeks (v. 21b) and the subsequent heavenly voice (v. 28b; cf. McGregor, 1928: 263-7).²⁹⁶⁵ In vv. 23-26, Jesus' speech comprises of the following information: (1) his hour of glorification has come (v. 23);²⁹⁶⁶ (2) he states metaphorically that dying is for the sake of living and also for bearing fruit (vv. 24-25); and (3) his Father honors those who follow him (v. 26).²⁹⁶⁷ In vv. 27-28a, he reveals his internal conflict in a prayer format (i.e., "Now my soul is troubled").²⁹⁶⁸

Fourth, the heavenly voice (v. 28b, Καὶ ἐδόξασα καὶ πάλιν δοξάσω)²⁹⁶⁹ can be considered as a sequence of the conversation between Jesus and the Greeks (vv. 23-28a).²⁹⁷⁰ *Fifth*, the crowd's dialogue among themselves²⁹⁷¹ appears as an immediate result of the heavenly voice (v. 29). While one group says that "it was thunder" (v. 29a), others say that "an angel has spoken to him" (v. 29b).²⁹⁷² *Sixth*, Jesus' dialogue with the crowd²⁹⁷³ in vv. 30-36a appears as a response to the community dialogue (v. 29; cf. McGregor, 1928: 267). Here the dialogue (vv. 30-36a) develops in a tri-tier format: (1) Jesus explains about the significance of the heavenly voice (v. 30),²⁹⁷⁴ coming of the judgment of the world, driving out of the ruler of the world (cf. Brant, 2011: 197-8),²⁹⁷⁵ lifting up of the Son of Man,²⁹⁷⁶ and drawing of all people to himself (vv. 30-32);²⁹⁷⁷ (2) the

²⁹⁶⁵ Carson (1991: 437) says that, "Now, dramatically, the request of the Greeks changes the parameters From now until the passion the 'hour' is in immediate prospect (12:27; 13:1; 17:1)". Moloney (1998: 352-6; cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 375-88) sees two major discussions in the episode: The hour of the Son of Man (vv. 23-30) and the judgment of the world and the lifting up of Jesus (vv. 31-36a).

²⁹⁶⁶ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 383) says that, "The moment on the Mount of Olives (v. 27), the betrayal (13:31, Νῦν), the lifting up on the cross (12:31) and the glorification (v. 23) are a single event, for the evangelist's hindsight 'Jesus' hour', which he sees as continuing to have an effect and be fulfilled in the calling of the Gentiles and their obtaining of salvation". Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 423-4; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 211.

²⁹⁶⁷ See Barrett, 1978: 424; Hoskyns, 1947: 424; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 385-6.

²⁹⁶⁸ Talbert (1992: 186) states that, "The Johannine equivalent to the Synoptic Gethsemane narrative (Matthew 26:36-46//Mark 14:32-42//Luke 22:39-46) comes in vv. 27-30". Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 212.

²⁹⁶⁹ The heavenly voice, here, is dialogical as it is a response to Jesus' response to the Greeks plus his disciples. Cf. Beasley-Murray, 1987: 212; Robertson, 1932: 228.

²⁹⁷⁰ Moloney (1998: 352) is of the opinion about Jesus' discourse with the Greeks that "His discourse, broken only by words from heaven (v. 28bc) and the crowd (vv. 29, 34)".

²⁹⁷¹ Another time a division among the crowd and diverse views are described. Cf. Morris, 1995: 530.

²⁹⁷² While the first utterance is given in "passive voice form" the latter one is given in "active voice form".

²⁹⁷³ Jesus' answer to the crowd is a turn taking attempt by him and then the dialogue continues.

²⁹⁷⁴ He says that the voice has come for the sake of the crowd.

²⁹⁷⁵ Witherington (1995: 224) states that, "Verse 31b speaks of the 'ruler of this world' being driven out, by means of what is about to happen to Jesus on the cross. This presumably refers not to his being driven out from heaven (but cf. Luke 10:18; Rev 12), but rather his being ejected from his role as ruler of this world, a role Jesus will assume as a result of and by means of his glorification". Kovacs (1995: 231; cf. Brant, 2011: 198) contends that the ruler of this world refers to Satan and that "the Fourth Evangelist sees the death, resurrection, and ascent of Jesus as the turning point in the conflict between God and the forces of evil".

²⁹⁷⁶ Talbert (1992: 187; cf. Brant, 2004: 46, 107-8, 170, 183, 186, 240) says that, "Two dimensions of the benefits of Jesus' glorification are given: first, the *Christus Victor motif* (the ruler of this world is cast out; cf. Col 2:15); second, the releasing of the magnetic power of divine love that pulls people to Jesus ('I will draw all people unto myself'; cf. Rom 5: 8)". Brant (2011: 194) says, "The narrative audience recognizes that 'lifted up' is an allusion to either death or ascension to heaven in the same way that Enoch and Elijah ascended (Gen 5:24; 2 Kings 2:1-12)".

²⁹⁷⁷ Stibbe (1993: 137) states that, "The emphasis on the lifting up of Jesus in John (with its *double entendre*: elevate on the cross/ascend to heaven) shows that the reader is meant to see the death of Jesus as the sacrifice of the Servant of

crowd's misunderstanding is brought to the notice of the reader by way of their questions and (3) Jesus' response brings into focus a light-darkness dualism and the necessity of believing the light (vv. 35-36a; cf. Dodd, 1960: 378; see Table 127).²⁹⁷⁸ There are also implicit inferences within the slot, like the hearing²⁹⁷⁹ of the crowd about the coming of Jesus' festival (v. 12), the crowd's continued testimony²⁹⁸⁰ about Jesus (v. 17), and the hearing²⁹⁸¹ about the performances of signs by Jesus (v. 18). This analysis proves that altogether is a recapitulation of several layers of dialogues. The central content of the dialogue can be viewed as follows: *first*, Jesus' kingship is revealed over against the Jewish understanding of the coming Messiah (vv. 13-15); *second*, Jesus' popularity is in conflict with the expectations of the Pharisees (v. 19); *third*, other sheep [i.e., the Greeks] are added to the sheepfold of Jesus' hour has come (vv. 20-28a; cf. 10:16); *fourth*, the Father has glorified the son and the crowd is misunderstood (vv. 28b-34); and *fifth*, Jesus invites his interlocutors to believe in him as the light of the world.

A reader may find difficulty in determining the overall form of the dialogue. The following utterance forms used by Jesus: *hour-statement* (v. 23; cf. Painter, 1989: 31),²⁹⁸² *veracity statement* (v. 24),²⁹⁸³ *metaphor* (v. 24; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 424; Neyrey, 2007: 214),²⁹⁸⁴ *irony/antithesis* (vv. 19, 25),²⁹⁸⁵ *petitional/informational prayer* (v. 27),²⁹⁸⁶ *glory-statement* (v. 28a),²⁹⁸⁷ and *utterances/fulfillment statements/prophetic voice* (vv. 30-32; cf. Keener, 2003: 2:

Yahweh, the one led like a lamb to the slaughter (see 1:29 and Isa 53:7)". Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2; Hoskyns, 1947: 425-6; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 212-3.

²⁹⁷⁸ Brant (2011: 194) observes that, "Jesus issues one last invitation, which echoes language found in the Gospels (vv. 35-36; cf. 1:1-18)". Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 427; Barrett, 1978: 428-9; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 441-2.

²⁹⁷⁹ The expression ἀκούσαντες shows how the news about Jesus' coming spread among the crowd by way of word of mouth, and created a dialogic set up. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 220; Morris, 1995: 518.

²⁹⁸⁰ The expression ἐμαρτύρει is an expression, showing the crowd's activity of witnessing/testifying about the hour of Lazarus by Jesus. Here too a dialogical activity that was happening continually among the crowd is in view. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 223.

²⁹⁸¹ Again, the expression ἤκουσαν explicitly refers that speaking, testifying, and hearing were continuous activities among the crowd. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 223.

²⁹⁸² Bultmann (1971: 424) comments that, "The hour has come (v. 23) to which allusion was earlier made (v. 8:20); it is the hour when the Messenger will return to the heavenly glory". Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2; Witherington, 1995: 223; Maniampil, 2004: 303.

²⁹⁸³ Cf. Talbert, 1992: 186; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 430; Bruce, 1983: 264.

²⁹⁸⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 383; cf. Witherington, 1995: 223) considers it as a 'parable' and says, "In an little parable Jesus illustrates the fruitfulness of his death, a fruitfulness which will lead to his glorification".

²⁹⁸⁵ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 384) says that, "John uses 'synoptic' logia, but tailors them to his language and thought. . . . The contrast is built up by the use of the verbs 'love' and 'hate', and the sharp antithesis 'would save' vs. 'lose', which in the synoptics appears in both parts of the verse, thus disappears (in Matthew 10:39 [Q source], 'find'—'lose')." Dodd (1960: 371; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 212; Duke, 1985: 57, 82, 84, 86, 90-1) comments that by a characteristic piece of Johannine irony, the Pharisees make the most pregnant comment of all. 'You are good', they say peevishly, 'the world has gone off after him!' (12:19)".

²⁹⁸⁶ Neyrey (2007: 216) says that, "Two types of prayer are evident here: *petitionary prayer* ("Father, save this hour") and *informational prayer* ("Father, glorify your name")". Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 425; Barrett, 1978: 428.

²⁹⁸⁷ Talbert (1992: 187) says that, "Jesus hears from God in the depths of his being and needs no external confirmation". Cf. Kermode, 1987: 458; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 435; Witherington, 1995: 224.

²⁹⁸⁸ Cf. Witherington, 1995: 224-5; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 437-8; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 216.

double meaning (v. 32; cf. Dodd, 1960: 378; Stibbe, 1993: 137),²⁹⁸⁹ *dualistic utterances* (vv. 35-36a),²⁹⁹⁰ and *belief-statement* (v. 36a). In their talk the crowd use *makarism/messianic hymn/processional saying* (v. 13b),²⁹⁹¹ *misunderstanding statements* (vv. 29, 34),²⁹⁹² *questions* (v. 34b; cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 427), *statement about tradition* (v. 34a), and *messianic utterances* (v. 34). While the Pharisees use a *statement out of fear/hyperbole/statement of frustration* (v. 19),²⁹⁹³ the Greeks use an expression of *wish* or *request* to see Jesus (v. 21b). The voice from heaven can be considered as a *theophony* or *glory-statement* (v. 28b).²⁹⁹⁴ Alongside of all, *intertextual* elements also play significant role within the slot (vv. 13b-15; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 133; Keener, 2003: 2: 870; see Table 128).²⁹⁹⁵ The narrator uses formula verbs, like ἐκραύαζον (v. 13a), εἶπαν πρὸς ἑαυτοὺς (v. 19a), λέγοντες (v. 21), λέγει . . . λέγουσιν (v. 22), ἀποκρίνεται αὐτοῖς λέγων (v. 23a), ἦλθεν οὖν φωὴ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ (v. 28), ἔλεγεν . . . ἔλεγον (v. 29), ἀπεκρίθη (v. 30, 34), and εἶπεν (v. 35), in order to introduce the utterances units.²⁹⁹⁶ The slot as a whole ends by v. 36a.

Utterance	Form	Content
Great crowd	Makarism, Messianic hymn, processional saying	"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!"
Prophecy	Intertextuality, promise-fulfillment	"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"
Pharisees	Statement out of fear, hyperbole, statement of frustration	You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!
Greeks	Expression of a wish, request	Sir, we wish to see Jesus
Jesus	Hour-statement, Veracity statement, metaphor, irony, antithesis, petitional/informational prayer, glory-statement	The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour?' No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.
Voice from heaven	Heavenly utterance, theophony, glory-statement	I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again
Crowd (one	Misunderstanding statement,	It was thunder (in passive voice)

²⁹⁸⁹ Kermode (1987: 458; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 219-20) says that, "... 'lifted up' has a double sense; it can be used of the Ascension as well as of the Crucifixion, and there is a covert allusion to the Suffering Servant in Isa 52:13, where the Greek version uses the same verb and means that the Servant will be 'lifted up and glorified exceedingly'".

²⁹⁹⁰ Cf. Talbert, 1992: 187-8; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 215; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 396.

²⁹⁹¹ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 423) opines that, "'Hosanna' was typically used as a greeting and blessing. The acclamation that follows is derived from Psalm 118:25, a song in which pilgrims, on entering the temple, wished each other the blessings of salvation".

²⁹⁹² The dual statements of the crowd at v. 29 can be considered as *surprise statements*.

²⁹⁹³ Cf. Maniparampil, 2004: 302; Witherington, 1995: 222; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 426.

²⁹⁹⁴ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 436-7) opines that, "Scholars have occasionally connected 'I have glorified it' with a specific occurrence, either the heavenly voice at Jesus' baptism or the Transfiguration. But John's Gospel does not mention those events".

²⁹⁹⁵ Witherington (1995: 217; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 422-4) is of the opinion that, "... the Gospel accounts share some of the same Old Testament citations (Psalm 118:25 appears in all four accounts; Zech 9:9 in Matthew and John) likely points to an earlier Christian collection of texts (a *testimonium*) used by the various evangelists to demonstrate that the surprising climatic events in Jesus' life were a fulfillment of scripture".

²⁹⁹⁶ Cf. Talbert, 1992: 185-8; Witherington, 1995: 220-6; Maniparampil, 2004: 301-5.

group)	surprise statement	
Crowd (others)	Misunderstanding statement, surprise statement	An angel has spoken to him
Jesus	Enigmatic utterances, fulfillment statements, prophetic voice	This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. No judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world driven out. And I, when am lifted up from the earth, draw all people to myself
Crowd	Misunderstanding statements/questions, statement about tradition, messianic utterances/questions	We have heard from the law that the Messiah remain forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?
Jesus	Dualistic utterances, belief-statement	The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you; if you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light so that you may become children of light

Table 128: 'Form' and 'Content' of utterance units in John 12:12-36a

In the slot, the narrator arranges the dialogues at a *chain fashion*, interconnected to one another. It begins with a *processional hymn*²⁹⁹⁸ in v. 13b²⁹⁹⁹ and ends with the utterances of Jesus in v. 36a. Once again the reader can conjecture about the usual narratorial practice of abbreviation in v. 19b. Here the narrator brings into focus a *hyperbolic utterance* as part of a dialogue with the Pharisees.³⁰⁰⁰ Painter (1993: 376-7) sees two major quest stories within the slot, *the quest of the crowd* and *the quest of the Greeks*. The arrival of the Greeks in v. 20 is the starting point for the second quest. In v. 21b, the Greeks express a *wish*³⁰⁰¹/request and opens up a sequential dialogue. Then onward the entire slot is fashioned in the form of two *circular dialogues* (vv. 21-28a and vv. 23-36a) connected to one another.

In the first circle (vv. 21-28a),³⁰⁰² the Greeks begin the speech, and that passes through Andrew and finally Jesus responds to the Greeks (see Diagram 53).³⁰⁰³ And in the second circle (vv. 23-36a),³⁰⁰⁴ Jesus' speech to the Greeks turns to be another chain of talk; that passes through the Father, crowd, Jesus, again crowd, and finally returns to Jesus (cf. Talbert, 1992: Diagram 54).³⁰⁰⁵ The time of Jesus' response to the Greeks is the beginning point of his

²⁹⁹⁷ It is one of the major peculiarities of this slot that the narrator arranges the material as a *chain of dialogues*.

²⁹⁹⁸ It can be called as a *promise-fulfillment song*, or *makarism*. It also has a *messianic song* format.

²⁹⁹⁹ Though there are four OT quotations in the episode (vv. 13b, 15, 38b, and 40), v. 13b is the only one uttered by the characters within the story.

³⁰⁰⁰ The expression εἶπαν πρὸς ἑαυτοὺς in v. 19a resembles some of the community dialogue formulas found in the Gospels. Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 423; Lindars, 1972: 425-6.

³⁰⁰¹ The expression θέλομεν means "wish", "want", "will", "desire", or "like". See Morris, 1995: 525; Lindars, 1972: 427; Strachan, 1941: 253; Kossen, 1970: 97-110.

³⁰⁰² The first circle begins with a dialogue by the Greeks, develops through various characters, and finally returns to them. Cf. Kossen, 1970: 97-110; Lindars, 1972: 427-9.

³⁰⁰³ Neyrey (2007: 213) says, "... disciples networking to provide access to Jesus; and the sayings of Jesus brought to him. The first scene tells of Greeks coming to Philip, who approaches Andrew so that both can bring them to Jesus". Cf. Kossen, 1970: 97-110; Painter, 1993: 376; Morris, 1995: 525-30; Strachan, 1941: 253.

³⁰⁰⁴ The second circle also is a sequential and chained dialogue. At the same time, both the circular dialogues are contributing to each other and connected. Cf. Neyrey, 2007: 214.

³⁰⁰⁵ The two circles develop by placing Jesus' utterance at vv. 23-28a at the centre of the slot. Cf. Morris, 1995: 525-30; Painter, 1993: 376-7; Gaebele, 1936: 227-32; Lindars, 1972: 427-9.

23).³⁰⁰⁶ The ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν statement of Jesus reveals the veracity stature of his utterances (v. 24a). In the long utterance unit of Jesus in vv. 23-28a, he uses a *metaphor* (v. 24),³⁰⁰⁷ a ζῶην αἰώνιον declaration (v. 25), an instruction about the necessity to follow him and about the aspects of servanthood (v. 26),³⁰⁰⁸ and *petitionary* and *informational* prayers (v. 27; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 215-18).



Diagram 53: The first dialogue circle

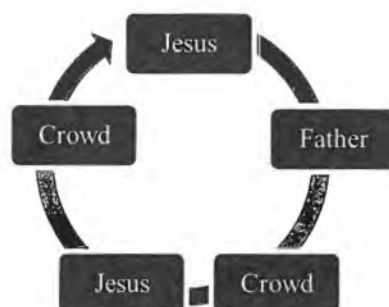


Diagram 54: The second dialogue circle

The second circle forms in the following sequence: Jesus' response to the Greeks serves as the beginning point (vv. 23-28a), a *theophony* in v. 28b, the Jews' misunderstood and varied reactions in v. 29,³⁰⁰⁹ and Jesus' statements about the 'judgment of this world' (v. 31) and 'lifting up from the earth' (v. 32).³⁰¹⁰ These varied aspects of the dialogues clearly mark the existence of a *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* formula.³⁰¹¹ Jesus' clarification in vv. 30-32 further creates misunderstanding among the Jews about the identity of the Son of Man and his lifting up.³⁰¹² This back and forth interaction causes several questions among the Jews about the Son of Man (v. 34).³⁰¹³ The *dualistic-and-metaphorical* sayings of Jesus in vv. 35-36a is yet another clarification of Jesus to the interrogative Jews. The dialogue ultimately reveals the conflicting situation underneath the ideologies of the major interlocutors, Jesus and the Jews.³⁰¹⁴

³⁰⁰⁶ Dodd (1960: 371) states that, "In the dramatic situation we may suppose them [i.e., Greeks] to be proselytes, but in the intention of the evangelist they stand for the great world at large; primarily the Hellenistic world which is his own mission field". See Beasley-Murray, 1987: 211; Kossen, 1970: 97-110; Hoskyns, 1947: 423.

³⁰⁰⁷ A *metaphor* of the grain of wheat. Cf. Strachan, 1941: 253-4; Kanagaraj, 2005: 401-2.

³⁰⁰⁸ The expressions like διακονῆ and ἀκολουθεῖτω are amplifying Johannine theology of servanthood and discipleship. Cf. Robertson, 1932: 225-8.

³⁰⁰⁹ While one group understood the *theophony* merely as a βροντὴν (v. 29a), another group declared it as an *angelophony* (v. 29b). Cf. Morris, 1995: 530; Gaebelein, 1936: 233; Lindars, 1972: 432; Carson, 1991: 441.

³⁰¹⁰ Dodd (1960: 378-79) argues that, "The evangelist has at last supplied the key to his use of the term ὑψοῦν, which he has employed from time to time in ways calculated to keep the reader in suspense". Cf. Kossen, 1970: 97-110; Robertson, 1932: 227-9; Carson, 1991: 440-4; Morris, 1995: 530-4.

³⁰¹¹ Neyrey (2007: 218-19) observes the pattern of *statement-misunderstanding-clarification* twice at the central dialogue sections. The first one is at 12:27-32: *statement* (12:28); *misunderstanding* (12:29); and *clarification* (12:30). The second one is at 12:32-36: *statement* (12:32-33); *misunderstanding* (12:34); and *clarification* (12:35-6).

³⁰¹² Jesus' statements in vv. 30-32 stand contradictory to what they have heard so far and their belief-patterns. Cf. Carson, 1991:443-4; Lindars, 1972: 433-34; Kossen, 1970: 97-110; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 211-13.

³⁰¹³ Cf. Strachan, 1941: 259; Painter, 1993: 376-7; Carson, 1991: 445-6; Robertson, 1932: 229-30.

³⁰¹⁴ Jesus' statement, ὁ φιλῶν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἀπολλύει αὐτήν, καὶ ὁ μισῶν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ τούτῳ εἰς ζῶην αἰώνιον φυλάξει αὐτήν (12:25), is conflict-generating and purposeful, and his utterance, ἀγὰρ ἐὰν ὑψωθῶ ἐκ τῆς γῆς, πάντας ἑλκύσω πρὸς ἑμαυτὸν (12:32), is audience-responsive. Painter (1993: 377) argues that, "In 12:32 Jesus tells us that in this event he will draw all men to himself thus making possible the success of the quest of the

Functionally, the third slot (vv. 12-36a), along with other slots, reveals several str conflicts.³⁰¹⁵ Jesus' coming to Jerusalem creates a tension-building situation among th (11:56).³⁰¹⁶ While the believing are preparing to welcome him, the unbelieving are plottin him along with one of the notables of his community members (12:9-11). The messianic 12:13b is instrumental in building a tension between the antagonistic Jews and th community. While the Jews are not ready to accept Jesus as the expected Messiah, the so their own scriptures in favor of Jesus' messiahship creates an intolerable situation. scripture quote in 12:15 further strengthens this tension. The act of testimony of the P (12:19) is yet another conflict-ridden incident, where they express their frustration du popularity of Jesus. The hyperbolic statement of the Pharisees has to be looked at from wi framework. Jesus' utterance about "those who love their life" and "those who hate th (12:25) helps to accelerate this tension further.³⁰¹⁸ His followers as a community of "th hate their life" are in sharp conflict with the unbelieving who are nicknamed as "those v their life". In 12:27, while dialoguing with the Greeks Jesus discloses his inward con Keener, 2003: 2: 871-82; Smith, 1999: 237-41).³⁰¹⁹ His *petitionary prayer*, "Father, save this hour", is in conflict with his *informational prayer*, "Father, glorify your name" (c 28a).³⁰²⁰ Jesus' dialogue with the crowd in 12:30-32 deciphers the conflict of this world Father's world.³⁰²¹ The central topic of the crowd's talk in 12:34 is the conflict between t law and the ideology of Jesus. The ambivalence of "children of light" versus "chi darkness" within the society is again a conspicuous matter.³⁰²² The slot as a whole brings a underlying tension between the Jews and the Jesus community by way of both the narrat the dialogical layers. The narrator's initiative of introducing the dramatic conf characterisation broaches into sharp focus toward the end of the BS (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1 24; Brant, 2011: 187-98). The narrator of the story embellishes the theme of glorification the aspect of suffering for the notice of the reader (cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 870-82; R 1987/1997: 433-42).³⁰²³ This aspect is actualised in chaps. 13-21 through the lifting up o of Man. By doing that the narrator made the role of the reader conspicuous, either to b

Greeks. At this point quest and conflict have come together because the conflict must run its full course quest can be fulfilled".

³⁰¹⁵ Cf. Painter, 1993: 376-7; Lindars, 1972: 420-36; Robertson, 1932: 220-30.

³⁰¹⁶ While the Johannine story develops the reader can see the split within the crowd, one group against another in favor of him. Cf. Strachan, 1941: 246; Gaebelein, 1936: 217-8; Morris, 1995: 505-6.

³⁰¹⁷ Cf. Bruce, 1983: 258-9; Carson, 1991: 432; Strachan, 1941: 249-51; Painter, 1993: 376.

³⁰¹⁸ Bultmann (1971: 424-25) comments that, "At this point a dominical saying, well known from th tradition [cf. Matthew 10:39; Mark 8:35; Luke 17:33], but here reproduced in a Johannine rendering is att 25". Cf. Talbert, 1992: 186; Painter, 1993: 376-7; Barrett, 1978: 423-4; Carson, 1991: 438-9.

³⁰¹⁹ Dodd (1960: 371) states that, "The approach of the Greeks provides a setting for a discourse in which the universality of Christ's work is prominent". See Kossen, 1970: 97-110; Robertson, 1932: 224-5; Wi 1995: 224; Hoskyns, 1947: 424-5.

³⁰²⁰ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 434) says, "The vss. that now follow resume the thought of v. 23 and further significance of the 'hour' of 'glorification' that was announced there". Cf. Talbert, 1992: 186; Gaebelein, 1936: 217-8.

³⁰²¹ Dodd (1960: 371) says that, "It is all spoken as if in the very presence of the approaching consumma work, which (as we shall learn) is His Passion". See Painter, 1993: 377; Lindars, 1972: 433-4; Beasley-Mu 213-4; Barrett, 1978: 426-7.

³⁰²² See Strachan, 1941: 259-60; Painter, 1993: 377; Robertson, 1932: 230-1; Morris, 1995: 533-4.

³⁰²³ Witherington (1995: 223) says that, "Verse 23 tells us that Jesus' hour has finally come—his hour to t paradoxically by means of his crucifixion". Brant (2011: 189) sees Jesus as the Triumphator all through 12:

Jesus and thus be part of the “children of light” or to remain unbelieving and thus be part of the “children of darkness” (cf. Eco, 1979: 3-40; Powell, 1990: 11-22).

13.2.4. Fourth Slot (12:36b-50)

The last slot (vv. 36b-50)³⁰²⁴ can be considered as a concluding section to the episode under discussion as well as to the entire BS. In the narrative section, the narrator discusses primarily about the subject-matter of Jewish unbelief (vv. 36b-43). According to Painter (1993: 377; cf. Strachan, 1941: 260), “That it was a hostile unbelief is signalled by the narrator who indicates that at the conclusion of the dialogue with the crowd, Jesus *hid* from them (12:36b), reintroducing the theme of the hidden Messiah”. The expression πληρωθῆναι ὃν εἶπεν shows the way the textual-dialogue³⁰²⁵ is delineated as a fulfillment by the narrator (v. 38a). The narrator uses two OT quotations in order to decipher the way Jesus’ ministry became fulfillment of the prophesy: *first*, Κύριε, τίς ἐπίστευσεν τῇ ἀκοῇ ἡμῶν; καὶ ὁ βραχίον κυρίου τίνι ἀπεκαλύφθη; (v. 38b; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 452-3); and *second*, Τετύφλωκεν αὐτῶν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς καὶ ἐπώρρωσεν αὐτῶν τὴν καρδίαν, ἵνα μὴ ἴδωσιν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς καὶ νοήσωσιν τῇ καρδίᾳ καὶ στραφῶσιν, καὶ ἰάσονται αὐτούς (v. 40; cf. Menken, 1996: 99-122; Keener, 2003: 2: 883-4).³⁰²⁶ In vv. 42-43, the narrator provides the reason for their unbelief of the people. Brown (1966: 487; cf. Painter, 1993: 378; Duke, 1985: 152-3) is of the opinion that, “The mention of the synagogue excommunication³⁰²⁷ indicates that vv. 42-43 are directed to Jews at the end of the first century who believe in Jesus but are afraid to confess this faith”.³⁰²⁸ The narratorial note in v. 43, i.e., “for they loved human glory more than the glory that comes from God”, has to be looked at from this standpoint (v. 43; cf. Brant, 2011: 196; Smith, 1999: 243-5).

³⁰²⁴ Carson (1991: 447) considers this section as a “Theology of Unbelief”. Keener (2003: 2: 882) states that, “In 12:37-50 John concludes the sign section of the gospel; this passage may provide a ‘rhetorical [break]’ preparing the reader for the more detailed depiction of Jesus’ passion—the hour of his glorification. Many find in 12:37-43 a theological summary of people’s responses to Jesus’ public ministry, as many find in 12:44-50 an anthology of representative sayings”.

³⁰²⁵ The promise-fulfillment formula employed here, by the narrator, points toward an OT and NT dialogue.

³⁰²⁶ Strachan (1941: 260) says that, “The early church appears to have had, for the convenience of preachers and teachers, collections of proof-texts from the OT (testimonia), intended to prove that all that happened to Jesus was foreshadowed in the OT”. Cf. Köstenberger, 2004: 391; Blomberg, 2001: 184-5; Bultmann, 1971: 452-3; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 215-7.

³⁰²⁷ The expression ἀποσυνάγωγαι is peculiar to John’s Gospel.

³⁰²⁸ About the discourse in vv. 44-50, Brown (1966: 490) says that, “the discourse that Jesus gives in these verses is clearly not in its original context; for, since Jesus has gone into hiding (12: 36), this discourse has no audience or setting”. Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 215; Köstenberger, 2004: 393-4) have the view that, “This final appeal (cf. 12:44-50) is a recap of themes set forth throughout the whole of the Gospel of John up to this point, from the prologue to the conclusion of Jesus’ activities”. Culpepper (1983: 94) makes it clear that “While Jesus withdraws into seclusion, the narrator interprets the reasons for unbelief. Jesus then offers a summarising interpretation of his ministry in the form of a closing soliloquy”. *Soliloquy* is a dramatic speech uttered by one character speaking aloud while alone on the stage. The *soliloquist* thus reveals his or her inner thoughts and feelings to the audience, either in supposed self-communion or in a consciously direct address. It is a form of *monologue*, but a *monologue* is not a *soliloquy* if the speaker is not alone (cf. Baldick, 1990: 207; Genette, 1980: 170-1). Köstenberger (2004: 392) uses the description “crypto-believers” to such believers.

John 12:36b-50	Overview
<p>v.36b: ταῦτα ἐλάλησεν Ἰησοῦς, καὶ ἀπελθὼν ἐκρύβη ἀπ' αὐτῶν.</p> <p>v.37: Τοσαῦτα δὲ αὐτοῦ σημεῖα πεποιηκότος ἔμπροσθεν αὐτῶν οὐκ ἐπίστευον εἰς αὐτόν,</p> <p>v.38: ἵνα ὁ λόγος Ἡσαΐου τοῦ προφήτου πληρωθῇ ὃν εἶπεν· <i>κύριε, τίς ἐπίστευσεν τῇ ἀκοῇ ἡμῶν; καὶ ὁ βραχίων κυρίου τίμι ἀπεκαλύφθη;</i></p> <p>v.39: διὰ τοῦτο οὐκ ἠδύναντο πιστεῦειν, ὅτι πάλιν εἶπεν Ἡσαΐας·</p> <p>v.40: <i>τετύφλωκεν αὐτῶν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς καὶ ἐπώρρωσεν αὐτῶν τὴν καρδίαν, ἵνα μὴ ἴδωσιν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς καὶ νοήσωσιν τῇ καρδίᾳ καὶ στραφῶσιν, καὶ ἰάσομαι αὐτούς.</i></p> <p>v.41: ταῦτα εἶπεν Ἡσαΐας ὅτι εἶδεν τὴν δόξαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐλάλησεν περὶ αὐτοῦ.</p> <p>v.42: ὅμως μέντοι καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἀρχόντων πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν, ἀλλὰ διὰ τοὺς Φαρισαίους οὐχ ὡμολόγουν ἵνα μὴ ἀποσυνάγωγοι γένωνται·</p> <p>v.43: ἡγάπησαν γὰρ τὴν δόξαν τῶν ἀνθρώπων μάλλον ἢπερ τὴν δόξαν τοῦ θεοῦ.</p> <p>v.44: Ἰησοῦς δὲ ἔκραξεν καὶ εἶπεν· ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ πιστεύει εἰς ἐμὲ ἀλλὰ εἰς τὸν πέμψαντά με,</p> <p>v.45: καὶ ὁ θεωρῶν ἐμὲ θεωρεῖ τὸν πέμψαντά με.</p> <p>v.46: ἐγὼ φῶς εἰς τὸν κόσμον ἐλήλυθα, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ μὴ μείνῃ.</p> <p>v.47: καὶ ἂν τίς μου ἀκούσῃ τῶν ῥημάτων καὶ μὴ φυλάξῃ, ἐγὼ οὐ κρίνω αὐτόν· οὐ γὰρ ἦλθον ἵνα κρίνω τὸν κόσμον, ἀλλ' ἵνα σώσω τὸν κόσμον.</p> <p>v.48: ὁ ἀθετῶν ἐμὲ καὶ μὴ λαμβάνων τὰ ῥήματά μου ἔχει τὸν κρίνοντα αὐτόν· ὁ λόγος ὃν ἐλάλησα ἐκεῖνος κρινεῖ αὐτόν ἐν τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ.</p> <p>v.49: ὅτι ἐγὼ ἐξ ἑμαυτοῦ οὐκ ἐλάλησα, ἀλλ' ὁ πέμψας με πατὴρ αὐτός μοι ἐντολὴν δέδωκεν τί εἴπω καὶ τί λαλήσω.</p> <p>v.50: καὶ οἶδα ὅτι ἡ ἐντολὴ αὐτοῦ ζωὴ αἰώνιός ἐστιν. ἃ οὖν ἐγὼ λαλῶ, καθὼς εἴρηκέν μοι ὁ πατήρ, οὕτως λαλῶ.</p>	<p>(1) The slot 36b-50 func the 'conclud section' of th Book of Sig</p> <p>(2) It contain Old Testam quotations (v 40) and the speech of Je 44b-50);</p> <p>(3) The narr the episode narrative (v 43) and for narrative (v 39, 44a).</p>

Table 129: The dialogue of 12:36b-50 within the narratorial framework

The ἔκραξεν καὶ εἶπεν of Jesus in vv. 44-50 is yet another speech about 'belief' and 'unbelief'. Jesus' statement here is strengthened by the help of usual Johannine themes: *first*, his relationship with the Father as one who is sent by him (vv. 44-45); *second*, the theme of light-and-darkness (v. 46); and *third*, the theme of his salvific mission in the world (v. 47). In vv. 48-50, Jesus emphasises about the relevance of his *word*³⁰³⁰ and the activity of *speaking* (cf. Brant 196).³⁰³¹ The reader of the gospel is brought to the viewpoint that Jesus is speaking in *his words* (τὰ ῥήματά and ὁ λόγος, v. 48) that he had already exchanged with his interlocutors through the BS.³⁰³² This is an important indication that in the BS Jesus' exchange of *words* (dialogues and monologues) with his interlocutors is one of the central concerns.³⁰³³ In h

³⁰²⁹ Brant (2011: 196) states that, "Jesus' words are . . . analogous to the vaunting of a Homeric hero who knows that though victory is won before he enters the battle (see Homer's speech in Homer, *Il.* 8.161-83) and even if I know that Achilles's speech in Homer, *Il.* 20.178-98)". Cf. Smith, 1999: 245; Talbert, 1992: 187-8; Witherington, 1998: 19; Robertson, 1932: 231-4; Morris, 1995: 535-41.

³⁰³⁰ There are two Greek words used here for the expression 'word' (τὰ ῥήματά and ὁ λόγος) interchangeably.

³⁰³¹ For the activity of 'speaking' the expressions like ἐλάλησα (v. 48), ἐλάλησα (v. 49), λαλήσω (v. 49), λαλῶ (v. 50) are used. Smith (1999: 247) states about vv. 44-50 with the following words: "The conclusion of Jesus' public ministry is thus clearly marked".

³⁰³² Bultmann (1971: 452) says that, ". . . the concepts σημεῖα and ῥήματά (λόγοι) flow together: the σημεῖα are words that speak, and their meaning is developed in the discourses; moreover the ῥήματά are not human words but words of revelation, full of divine and miraculous power—they are indeed miraculous works".

³⁰³³ Stibbe (1993: 139; cf. Dodd, 1960: 383-9; McGregor, 1928: 269-72) says that, "The following themes are ubiquitous in the story so far: believing in Jesus (vv. 44, 46); the description of God as 'the one who sent me' (vv. 45, 49); sight (v. 45); coming into the world (v. 46); light (v. 46); darkness (v. 46); hearing (v. 47); judgment (v. 48); salvation (v. 47); accepting Jesus (v. 48); the Father (vv. 49, 50); the dependency of the Son upon the Father (v. 50)".

Jesus also emphasises the theme of judgment as he proclaims that “on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge” (v. 48b).³⁰³⁴ Moreover, his speech all through the episodes is according to the commandment of the Father, the one who is the provider of eternal life (vv. 49-50). That further means, the Father-and-Son dialogue lies at the root of all the dialogues between Jesus and his interlocutors in the gospel (vv. 49-50). The content, thus, of the slot is: *first*, the scriptural prophesy is fulfilled in the unbelief of the people; and *second*, Jesus’ words (i.e., his dialogues, monologues, and other speech forms) with his interlocutors are according to the commandment of the Father.

The fourth slot (vv. 36b-50) can be considered as an *appropriate conclusion*³⁰³⁵ to the entire episode as well as to the BS.³⁰³⁶ The entire slot can be sub-divided on the basis of the nature of the literature: *first*, a narrative section (vv. 36b-43); and *second*, a soliloquy (vv. 44-50; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 71; Chatman, 1978: 178-81).³⁰³⁷ The arrangement of the material within the slot has the following sequence: *narrative* (vv. 36b-38a), *intertextuality* (v. 38b), *narrative* (v. 39), *intertextuality* (v. 40), *narrative* (vv. 41-43), and *soliloquy* (vv. 44-50; Stibbe, 1993: 137-41; Genette, 1980: 170-1). At the beginning of the first half (v. 36b), the narrator points out that Jesus “departed and hid from them”,³⁰³⁸ but at the beginning of the second half (v. 44), Jesus appears from nowhere and speaks boldly (cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 886). It introduces a *from-disappearance-to-appearance sequence* within the slot.³⁰³⁹ The mention about the *spoken words* of prophet Isaiah in the first half (vv. 36b-43) and of Jesus in the second half (vv. 44-50) forms an unusual sequential rhythm within the slot (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 452-3; see the textual units below):

12:38a	ἵνα ὁ λόγος Ἰσαΐου τοῦ προφήτου πληρωθῇ ὃν εἶπεν
12:39	διὰ τοῦτο οὐκ ἠδύναντο πιστεῦν, ὅτι πάλιν εἶπεν Ἰσαΐας
12:41	ταῦτα εἶπεν Ἰσαΐας . . . καὶ ἐλάλησεν περὶ αὐτοῦ.
12:47	καὶ εἰς τὴν μου ἀκούσῃ τῶν ῥημάτων καὶ μὴ φυλάξῃ
12:48a	ὁ ἀθετῶν ἐμὲ καὶ μὴ λαμβάνων τὰ ῥήματά μου ἔχει τὸν κρίνοντα αὐτόν.
12:48b	ὁ λόγος ὃν ἐλάλησα ἐκεῖνος κρίνει αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ.
12:49a	ὅτι ἐγὼ ἐξ ἑμαυτοῦ οὐκ ἐλάλησα
12:49b	ἀλλ’ ὁ πέμψας με πατήρ αὐτός μοι ἐντολὴν δέδωκεν τί εἶπω καὶ τί λαλήσω
12:50b	ἃ οὖν ἐγὼ λαλῶ, καθὼς ἐλήρκεν μοι ὁ πατήρ, οὕτως λαλῶ ³⁰⁴⁰

49, 50), the commandment of God (v. 50); and eternal life (v. 50). Their reappearance indicates that 12:44-50 functions as a restatement of the leading concepts of the Book of Signs”.

³⁰³⁴ Neyrey (2007: 223-4; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 71) says that, “The language here appeared much earlier, in the discourse with Nicodemus (12:31-36; cf. 3:19-21 // 12:45-50; cf. 3:17-19, 34-36)”.

³⁰³⁵ Neyrey (2007: 223) opines, “in 12:44-50, although no specific audience is identified, Jesus gives a plenary judgment that applies to the whole of the Book of Signs”. See McGregor, 1928: 269-72; Bultmann, 1971: 452-4.

³⁰³⁶ Neyrey (2007: 221; cf. Kennedy, 1984: 3-38; Blomberg, 2001: 184; Carson, 1991: 451-3) says that, “Rhetoricians instruct on how to write a ‘conclusion’ (epilogue, peroration) to speeches, which is of value to us as we conclude the ‘Book of Signs’”. An epilogue, says Aristotle, does four things: *first*, disposes the hearers favorably to us and unfavorably to opponents; *second*, amplifies and minimizes; *third*, moves the hearers to an emotional reaction; and *fourth*, reminds the audience of the main points (cf. *Rhet.* 3.19.1).

³⁰³⁷ In the slot, the narrator introduces *intertextual dialogues* in vv. 38b and 40, and a *soliloquy* in vv. 44-50 (cf. Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 143). Witherington (1995: 226) says, “There are two major subsections to the remaining verses in John 12. Verses 37-43 summarise the state of unbelief Jesus found in Judaism and offers an explanation, and this in turn is followed by a succinct summary of Jesus’ teaching given during the public ministry in vv. 44-50 . . .”

³⁰³⁸ Jesus’ *elusive nature* (v. 36b) and the Jews’ *unbelieving nature* (vv. 37-41) are brought together here.

³⁰³⁹ The protagonist disappears at the beginning; but, at the end he appears and speaks eloquently.

³⁰⁴⁰ The *word/speaking* vocabularies used in the slot are (see the highlights of the textual diagram above): (1) in the first half (vv. 36b-43): ὁ λόγος, εἶπεν (v. 38a), εἶπεν (v. 39), εἶπεν, ἐλάλησεν (v. 41); and (2) in the second half (vv. 44-

The speaking activities of prophet Isaiah and Jesus are highlighted all through the dynamically interconnected way. While the *intertextual references* establish the *promise-fulfillment statements*³⁰⁴¹ about unbelief, the *soliloquy* concentrates on a *belief-unbelief conflict* (Chatman, 1978: 178-81; Genette, 1980: 170-1; see the textual units above). The involvement of the narrator is more obvious in the first half of the slot (cf. vv. 36b-43). Stibbe (1993: 137) notes that, “in 12:37, we move from *mimesis* (showing)³⁰⁴² to *diegesis* (telling).³⁰⁴³ In other words, the presence of the narrator becomes obvious and indeed paramount”. While explicit dialogues are mostly absent within the slot, it directs the reader for identifying scriptural fulfillment. The mission of Jesus has a dialogic effect in the first half (vv. 36b-43) and the basis of the *word/speaking* all through the gospel in the latter half (vv. 44-50; Dodd, 1960: 383-9).

The section in vv. 36b-50 functions as an appropriate conclusion not only to the current slot but also to the BS.³⁰⁴⁴ The fourth slot primarily deals the subject matter of “belief-unbelief conflict”. The *speaking/word* vocabulary range is comparatively higher in the slot in order to bring out the following points: *first*, Isaiah’s utterances are dialogically fulfilled in the unbelief of the Jews (vv. 36b-43; cf. Brant, 2004: 32, 205, 207); and *second*, Jesus’ utterances/dialogues are not of himself but of the Father, and all his utterances/dialogues will serve as a judge on the last day (vv. 44-50; cf. McGregor, 1928: 269-72).³⁰⁴⁵ The existence of the “synagogue community” against the “excommunicated community” forms a conflicting situation.³⁰⁴⁷ The episode conflicts at several layers: *first*, within Jesus himself (vv. 27-28a); *second*, within the Jesus and the Jews (vv. 5-8); *third*, within the Jewish community/crowd (v. 19); and *fourth*, between the community of the protagonist and of the antagonists (11:56; 12:9-11, 13-15, 19, 34-36a, 36b-50).³⁰⁴⁸

50): τῶν ῥημάτων (v. 47), τὰ ῥήματα (v. 48a), ὁ λόγος, ἐλάλησα (v. 48b), οὐκ ἐλάλησα (v. 49a), εἶπω, λαλήσω (v. 49b), εἰρηκέν, λαλῶ (v. 50b).

³⁰⁴¹ The *promise-fulfillment* methodology reveals a kind of dialogical initiative between the OT and the NT. The quotations from Isaiah also remain as *memorial* statements. The citation of Isa 53:1 in v. 38 is verbatim the text. In v. 40 John cites Isa 6:10, the classical OT passage used in the NT to explain Israel’s failure to believe in Jesus (Brown, 1966: 485). Painter (1993: 398) suggests that, “The quotations (12:38, 40) fall in a passage (John 12:37-50) dealing with unbelief which provides a summary conclusion to the ‘public ministry’ of Jesus (John 1-12)”.

³⁰⁴² *Mimesis* is the Greek word for imitation, a central term in aesthetic and literary theory since Aristotle. A work that is understood to be reproducing an external reality or any aspect of it is described as *mimetic*, while *criticism* is the kind of criticism that assumes or insists that literary works reflect reality. See Baldick, 1993: 137-8; Chatman, 1978: 32.

³⁰⁴³ *Diegesis* is an analytic term used in modern narratology to designate the narrated events or story as distinct from that of the narration. The *diegetic* level of a narrative is that of the main story, whereas the ‘higher’ level at which the story is told is *extradiegetic* (i.e., standing outside the sphere of the main story). An embedded story within the tale constitutes a lower level known as *hypodiegetic*. See Baldick, 1990: 57; Chatman, 1978: 1993: 137-8.

³⁰⁴⁴ Neyrey considers John 12 as a rhetorical ‘Peroratio’. He (2009: 332-55) says, “Rules for a ‘conclusion’ instruct students not simply to summarise an argument; more importantly, they instruct a speaker to play to the emotions of the audience, ascribing praise and blame to the characters and thus persuading the audience to do likewise”.

³⁰⁴⁵ While the first half serves as a *text-to-text dialogue* or *inter-textual dialogue*, the second half is implicit in the relevance of Jesus’ utterances/dialogues, their source, and their future effect.

³⁰⁴⁶ The “synagogue community” also includes the so-called “crypto-Christians” too (vv. 42-43).

³⁰⁴⁷ The belief-unbelief bifurcation is at another level reflected through the existence of the “synagogue community” over against the “excommunicated Jesus community”. This aspect is a leading narratorial dynamics in the Gospel of John in general.

³⁰⁴⁸ Cf. Hoskyns, 1947: 427-31; Lindars, 1972: 436-46; Beasley-Murray, 1987: 215-21; Gaebele, 1936: 21.

functions at large as a recapitulation snippet that abbreviates the entire BS³⁰⁴⁹ and as a transitional pericope that links between the BS and the BG.³⁰⁵⁰ The speech of Jesus in the form of a soliloquy is dramatic and that invites the attention of the reader toward the protagonist and ultimately to belief in him (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Tan, 1993: 50-89). The reader who travels with the interlocutors from the beginning of the story is persuaded to come out with her/his positive emotions [i.e., love] toward the protagonist and negative emotions [i.e., hate] toward the antagonists (cf. Neyrey, 2009: 341-55; Eco, 1979: 3-43).

13.3.Meso-Analysis

As we analysed above, the episode in 11:54-12:50 has four dialogic slots and the central tenets can be recapitulated as follows (cf. Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95; Majercik, 1992: 2: 185-8).³⁰⁵¹ The first slot is made up of seams of *implied dialogues* that mainly discusses about the possibility of Jesus' coming to the festival and his whereabouts (11:54-57). This introductory slot invites the attention of the reader toward the upcoming events and the dialogues (cf. McGregor, 1928: 257; Neyrey, 2007: 207). The *question-and-answer/challenge and riposte* dialogue of the second slot aims at unravelling two discipleship models that are in conflict with one another within the inner circle of Jesus (12:1-11; cf. Bultmann, 1971: 414-7).³⁰⁵² The third slot is *conflict-centered* and that has elements of a *chain-fashioned/circular/prayer-centered/statement-misunderstanding-clarification* dialogue (12:12-36a; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 213-5). The slot emphasises Jesus' kingship and the expansion of his mission beyond the Jewish boundary (especially among the Greeks; cf. Kossen, 1970: 97-110; Kovacs, 1995: 227-47). It also points out that the long-awaited hour of Jesus has come (cf. Painter, 1993: 376-7; Köstenberger, 1999: 76). The reader of the story is invited to

³⁰⁴⁹ Keener (2003: 2: 886) says that, "This passage is extremely significant, but not because it introduces many new conceptions. Essentially it repeats in typically Johannine language Jesus' teachings from previous discourses, summarising and epitomising the message of Jesus in the Gospel to that point". Cicero repeats much of what was seen in the *Rhetorica ad Herennium* about a conclusion, in particular an enumeration of its three parts: "The conclusion is the end and termination of the whole oration. It has three parts, the *summing up*, the *indignatio* or exciting indignation or ill-will against the opponents, and the *conquestio* or the arousing of pity and sympathy" (*De Investione* 1.52.98; cf. Quintilian, *Inst.* 6.1.1; Neyrey, 2009: 335; Brant, 2011: 195).

³⁰⁵⁰ Keener (2003: 2: 887) further says that, "Positioned at the end of the narratives that precede the passion and immediately preceding the prologue to the farewell discourse, this unit recapitulates the themes that have preceded and prepares the reader for their fulfillment in the Passion Narrative which follows". Stibbe (1993: 140) says, "... 12:44-50 should not be seen exclusively in terms of closure. The prolepses or flash-forwards to the farewell discourses in John 13-17 are significant. Note the proleptic echo effect between 12:47 ('hearing and keeping my words') and 14:15-24. Most of all, notice the correspondence between the *form* of Jesus' address in 12:44-50 and what we find in chaps. 14-17".

³⁰⁵¹ Beasley-Murray (1987: 206) has the opinion that, "The chapter [chap. 12] consists of two narratives, a discourse, and an epilogue to the ministry of Jesus". He considers "The Anointing of Jesus" (12:1-8) as the first narrative, "The Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem" (12:9-19) as the second narrative, "The Coming of Greeks and the Death and Glory of Jesus" as the discourse section, and 12:37-50 as the "Epilogue". But here we see dialogical elements in all the sections and treat 12:1-11; 12-36a; and 36b-50 as separate dialogue slots. Bultmann (1971: 412) is of the opinion that, "11:55-12:19 form a connected composition, consisting of various fragments. 11:55-57 is a neutral description, creating a pause between the events". Bultmann (1971: 412) says further that, "But since the intermission is filled with questioning and allusion to the threat that lies ahead, awakening thereby a sense of tension, the fragment at the same time serves as an introduction to what follows".

³⁰⁵² See the comparison of the anointing passages, Mark 14:3-9 and John 12:1-8 (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 209).

believe in Jesus who is the light of the world. In the fourth slot, both the *promise-to-fail* section and the *soliloquy* section demonstrate the belief and unbelief concerns at the extend (12:36b-50; cf. Dodd, 1960: 379-83; Chatman, 1978: 178-81). It states that Jesus' verbal exchange with his interlocutors is as per the commandment of the Father.³⁰⁵³ Through the subtextual undercurrent conflicts are further strengthened and the reader is prepared to view the climactic story.³⁰⁵⁴ As a transitional passage it persuades the reader yet another time to remain faithful to Jesus (cf. Thiselton, 1992: 1-10; Van Dijk, 1976: 23-55).³⁰⁵⁵ The plot-structure of the episode is outlined through several layers of conflict (*agōn*; cf. Brant, 2004: 140-9) and that is done with the aim of characterisation (cf. Brooks, 1984: 3-61; Stibbe, 1993: 32-53).³⁰⁵⁶ The plot-elements of reversal (*peripeteia*),³⁰⁵⁷ recognition (*anagnorisis*),³⁰⁵⁸ and suffering (*pathos*)³⁰⁵⁹ are combined together in the following way: *first*, the belief-and-unbelief conflict comes as a turning point in the episode and the reader is persuaded to see the aftermath; *second*, the protagonist comes to the realisation that his hour has come; and *third*, the aspect of glorification through suffering is shown convincingly hereafter.

The dialogues/narratives and the movements of the episode are contributive toward the development of the riddened framework. The OT quotations (12:13b, 15, 38b, and 40) are made use in order to achieve the following intertextual gains: *first*, the proleptic function of the Jewish scriptures as a dialogic and revelatory fulfillment in the person and work of Jesus (12:13-15); and *second*, the revelatory fulfillment of them in the unbelieving nature of Jesus' interlocutors (12:38b-40). (Strachan, 1941: 249-52; Keener, 2003: 2: 882-6).³⁰⁶⁰ While the first two quotations (12:

³⁰⁵³ Lincoln (2000: 105) states that, "The narrative of the public ministry, which began with the witness of the Baptist, closes on the note of judgment (cf. 12:47-48). The conclusion is in two parts. In vv. 37-43 the narrator summarises the response to Jesus' signs, and in vv. 44-50 the protagonist himself summarises what has been the response to his words. The two sections sum up the trial of the public ministry".

³⁰⁵⁴ The contest or dispute (or *agōn*) between the protagonist and the antagonists comes to the zenith in this episode (cf. Baldick, 1990: 3; Stibbe, 1993: 64). Brant (2004: 140; cf. Lincoln, 2000: 13; Neyrey, 1996: 10) states that, "The conflicts of the Fourth Gospel, with their accusations of legal infractions, testimonies, scrutiny of and rendering of judgment, contain forensic language apropos of a trial".

³⁰⁵⁵ Brant (2004: 30-1; cf. Tovey, 1997: 180) says that, "The way that the author of the Fourth Gospel transitions between episodes, by employing the narrator to provide a short bridge that moves Jesus from one episode to the next, bears no resemblances to the transitions between major scenes in the tragedies. The way that he transitions between episodes, however, seems to be guided by a tragic convention".

³⁰⁵⁶ For more details about the plot and the rhetoric of the episode, refer to Brant, 2011: 196.

³⁰⁵⁷ *Peripeteia* or *peripety* is a sudden reversal of a character's circumstances and fortunes, usually involving the downfall of the protagonist in a tragedy, and often coinciding with the 'recognition' or *anagnorisis*. In Greek tragedy, however, the *peripeteia* abruptly restores the prosperity of the main character(s). See Baldick, 1990: 165; Brant, 2004: 43-50.

³⁰⁵⁸ Baldick (1990: 8-9; cf. Brant, 2004: 50-7) defines, "*Anagnorisis* (plural *-ises*), the Greek word for 'recognition' or 'discovery', used by Aristotle in his *Poetics* to denote the turning point in a drama at which a character (usually the protagonist) recognises the true state of affairs, having previously been in error or ignorance The *anagnorisis* is usually combined with the play's *peripeteia* or reversal of fortunes".

³⁰⁵⁹ Baldick (1990: 163; cf. Brant, 2004: 57-63) defines that, "*Pathos*, the emotionally moving quality or feeling in literary work or of particular passages within it, appealing especially to our feelings of sorrow, sympathy, or compassionate sympathy".

³⁰⁶⁰ McGregor (1928: 262) says that, "It is not clear whether, as a matter of history, the people took Jesus to be the Messiah himself, or merely one who would prepare for his coming, e.g., Elijah (1:21; Mark 9:11) or

are used specifically to address the messianic role of the protagonist, the last two are addressing the subject matter of unbelief of the antagonists (12: 38b, 40).³⁰⁶¹ Jesus' utterances and gestures are persuasive at the extent of involving his interlocutors for a wider dialogue. While the interlocutors' utterances are slim, and mostly in the form of *questions* (11:56; 12:5, 34), *hymn* (12:13b), *surprise* (12:19b), *wish* (12:21b), *misunderstanding statement* (12:29) and sometimes recorded in *passive voice* (11:57; 12:29), Jesus' utterances are *thematically intertwined*, *explanatory*, *analeptic* and *proleptic*, *illocutionary*,³⁰⁶² *conflict-building*, and almost always in *active voice* format (12: 7-8, 23-28a, 30-32, 35-36a, 44-50). In the episode, Jesus' "from above" ideology is in constant conflict with the "from below" ideology of his interlocutors (cf. Nicholson, 1980: 21). This conflict (*agōn*) is the kernel point for both the dialogues and the movements of the characters within the episode.³⁰⁶³ The conflict-ridden nature of the episode is built in the communitarian (11:54-57),³⁰⁶⁴ family (12:1-11), processional (12:13-15), glory-focused (12:23-28a), heaven-earth interactive (12:28b), and soliloquy (12:44-50)³⁰⁶⁵ formatted settings (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 131-41; Herman, 1995: 38). Jesus' character is pictured as a glorious figure both through the sophisticated categories of expressions by the narrator and by his own performative utterances.³⁰⁶⁶

The narrator's rhetorical skill is further proved as he deliberates the reader toward the real climax of the 'hour of Jesus' (cf. Falk, 1971: 42-50; Nichols, 1971: 130-41). Stibbe (1993: 131) states that, "The double mention of the third and final Passover of the gospel in 11:55 prepares the reader

undoubtedly assumes the former alternative; accordingly he abruptly introduces the 'ass' of the synoptists in order to point to the fulfillment of Zechariah's Messianic prophecy". Cf. Talbert, 1992: 179-88; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 411-50; Painter, 1993: 374-8; Strachan, 1941: 246-63; Lindars, 1972: 410-41; Robertson, 1932: 211-34; Witherington, 1995: 206-30; Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 362-425.

³⁰⁶¹ Deutero-Isaiah functions as a rich resource for the author. We can see this again especially in the Johannine concepts of the lifting up and glorification of the Son of Man. See Stibbe, 1993: 136-7.

³⁰⁶² The crowd's question in 12:34 is a response to Jesus' statements, and his further response in 12:35-36a is again conflict-generating. This *illocutionary-perlocutionary* function of dialogues is evident within this episode. See Painter, 1993: 377; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1998: 200; Neyrey, 2007: 219.

³⁰⁶³ Jesus' utterances are the focal point of the episode and the interlocutors' various reactions and feelings are introduced by means of dialogue with the protagonist. Cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 362-425; Witherington, 1995: 206-30; Talbert, 1992: 179-88; Robertson, 1932: 211-34; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 411-50; Lindars, 1972: 410-41; Strachan, 1941: 246-63; Painter, 1993: 374-8.

³⁰⁶⁴ Stibbe (1993: 134) sees three groups or communities within the story: *first*, the 'great crowd of 12:12-13; *second*, the 'disciples', they are presented as prone to misunderstanding; *third*, the 'Pharisees', they exclaim, "Look how the whole world has gone after him".

³⁰⁶⁵ Ridderbos (1987/1997: 449) says that, "The summary of Jesus' witness concerning himself in vv. 44-50 is written from a specific perspective and is clearly defined by that perspective, which is that of Jesus' self-vindication over against the unbelief described in vv. 37-43".

³⁰⁶⁶ Jesus is pictured in the story as the one who is sought after by the Jews in the temple and the priests and Pharisees for arrest, one who travels from Ephraim to Bethany, one who is at a dinner party, one who is being anointed by Mary, one who is not always in this world, one whom many believed on account of Lazarus' resurrection, one who is in the temple, fulfiller of many scriptural promises, one about whom the crowd testify, performer of many signs, Son of Man, one who deserves honor and service, whose soul is troubled, one who glorifies his Father's name, one who is going to be lifted up, one who draws all people to himself, the light of the world, one who departs and hides, one who performed so many signs, one whom the Father's glory is manifested, one who does not judge but save, whose words will serve as a judge, one who works as an emissary of the Father.

for the sacrifice of Jesus at Golgotha". Moreover, the indication about the arrest³⁰⁶⁷ in 11:1 invites the reader forward to witness the destiny of Jesus. In the second slot, the narrator brings the negative role of Judas Iscariot and generates anticipation in the mind of the reader toward events yet to be unfolded in the BG (cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 859-65). The dialogues in the text invite the attention of the reader toward Jesus' inclusive mission among the Greeks (cf. Strachan 1941: 252-60).³⁰⁶⁸ The narrator's ability to convince the reader about the belief-and-conflict all through the narrative is performative. Carson (1991: 447) notices a "large catastrophic unbelief" at the climax of the narrative.³⁰⁶⁹ The reference to the 'lifting up of the Son of Man' in 12:32 and 34 are proleptic in function (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 431-9; cf. Painter 1993: 376-7).³⁰⁷⁰ As realised eschatology is one of the leading tenets of John's thinking, the reading and decision making are crucial. The time of reading can be the time of either 'beginning of life' or the 'beginning of condemnation' (cf. Tan, 1993: 50-89).³⁰⁷¹

It is evident that the narrator attempts to teach, provoke, and influence the reader right from the beginning (cf. Tovey, 1997: 256-72; Kennedy, 1984: 3-38). *Storying*³⁰⁷² is the genre employed by him in order to influence the ever-present reader (cf. Tovey, 2007: 12-40; Feenstra, 2001: 209-18). The narratorial devices like *anabasis* (11:55),³⁰⁷³ *analepsis* (12:1), *prolepsis* (11:55-57; 12:23-26, 27-28, 35-36a),³⁰⁷⁴ *explanatory notes/implicit commentary* (12:6; a note in order to explain a symbol, 12:33), *intertextuality* (12:13b, 15, 30), *misunderstanding* (12:16; 29), *memory* (12:16b),³⁰⁷⁵ *ἀμὴν ἀμὴν statement* (12:24; cf. Culpepper 2001: 253-62), *metaphorical saying* (12:24; cf. Mooij, 1976: 1-18; Levin, 1977: 1), *anaphora* (12:25), *'I' statement* (12:32; cf. Williams, 2001: 343-52; Ball, 1996: 85),³⁰⁷⁶

³⁰⁶⁷ In the current passage, the order for arresting Jesus is more acute than ever before. The reader is, now, faced with her/himself with greater effect due to the narratorial skills of the narrator.

³⁰⁶⁸ Cf. Strachan, 1941: 246-63; Painter, 1993: 374-8; Lindars, 1972: 410-41; Witherington, 1996: 362-425; Robertson, 1932: 211-34; Talbert, 1992: 179-88; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 211-34.

³⁰⁶⁹ Carson (1991: 447) says further that, "There is ample evidence that the substantial unbelief of the Jews before the resurrection was a major hindrance to the conversion of Jews after the resurrection".

³⁰⁷⁰ See 7:33-36; 8:21-22. Neyrey (2007: 219) opines that, "'lifted up' can mean either exalted and glorified or crucified. These bystanders resemble others who did not understand Jesus' cryptic reference to death".

³⁰⁷¹ Moloney (1998: 355) states that, "The hour of Jesus, the glorification of the Son of Man, the lifting up, the gathering are all associated with the crucifixion of Jesus . . ." Moloney (1998: 366) further comments: "The theme of increasing misunderstanding (cf. 11:8, 12, 16, 21-22, 24, 27, 33, 39, 47, 55; 12:9, 13, 29, 34) and mounting opposition (cf. 11:8, 16, 47-50, 54, 57; 12:10-11), the theme of 'gathering' has emerged (10:15-16; 11:50-52; 12:9, 13). Culpepper (1983: 94) states that, "Through his death he will draw all men to himself (12:27-32). This suggests both the means and the meaning of his death (12:33)". Culpepper (1983: 94) further says that, "In chap. 12 is a transitional chapter. It brings Jesus' public ministry to a close, describes the final preliminary toward his arrest and death, and forms a solid link between chaps. 11 and 13".

³⁰⁷² The narrator's ability to present the historical factors in story-format deserves special appreciation. (cf. 1987: 11-3; Bowles, 2010: 1-30).

³⁰⁷³ In the passage the Greek expression ἀνέβησαν is translated as "went up".

³⁰⁷⁴ The process time shape in 12:1 (πρὸ ἑξ ἡμερῶν τοῦ πάσχα) brings the imminence of the death of Jesus. What the narrator shows the readers now is another unconscious prolepsis of the passion by a character in the narrative world (See Stibbe, 1993: 131).

³⁰⁷⁵ This *memory-statement* explicitly reveals the post-resurrection composition of the episode.

³⁰⁷⁶ In order to know about various uses of 'I statements', refer to Burge, 1992: 354-6.

(12:34),³⁰⁷⁷ *light and darkness symbolism/dualism* (12:35-36a), *degree of comparison* (12:43),³⁰⁷⁸ and *rhythmical tone* (12:44-50)³⁰⁷⁹ are the rhetorical tactics of the narrator in order to establish grips with the reader (cf. Funk, 1988: 2-58; Booth, 1961: 149-65). He also uses the events like *arrest-order* (11:57), *procession* (12:13), *arrival of hour* (12:23; cf. Kossen, 1970: 97-110), *prayers* (12:27-28a; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 215-8), *heavenly utterance* (12:28b), and *Jesus' hiding* (12:36b) as awe-inspiring and anticipatory elements within the episode. The *ethos-logos-pathos*³⁰⁸⁰ dynamism is again complete in the narrative as in the case of the previous episodes (cf. Kennedy, 1991: viii-ix; Garver, 1994: 10, 90-1, 248). Stibbe (1993: 134; cf. Kermode, 1986: 3-16; Windisch, 1993: 25-64) states that, "the narrator plays an important part in shaping the reader's understanding of the implicit commentary in this story, providing descriptive statements, such as 12:12, 13a, 14, 17, 18, and indications of who is speaking, v. 19". Thus the aspect of glorification through suffering is conveyed to the reader with the help of all the available rhetorical means (cf. Nicol, 1972: 124-36; Keener, 2003: 2: 872-9) and s/he is warned to protect her/himself from the coming judgment of the Father (12:47-49).³⁰⁸¹

The narrative develops from a *glory-focused revelatory dialogue* in 11:1-53 to a *conflict-centered dialogue* in 11:54-12:50 (cf. McGregor, 1928: 244-72; Bultmann, 1971: 414-7).³⁰⁸² The Gentiles come to see Jesus, his long-awaited hour has come, driving out of the ruler of the world has been declared, lifting up of the Son of Man is anticipated, and the conflict-ridden dialogues are introduced. Jesus' statement about the overthrowing of "the ruler of this world" is a forward looking and optimistic rhetoric (cf. Kovacs, 1995: 227-47; Brant, 2011: 197-8).³⁰⁸³ The dialogues function not only as a means of conflict, but also as a means of glorification. In 12:44-50, Jesus recapitulates the entire BS and inspires both the interlocutors and the reader for holding firm the

³⁰⁷⁷ The existing view of "Messiah remains forever" is reversed by Jesus' statement "the Son of Man will be lifted up".

³⁰⁷⁸ The expression *μᾶλλον ἥπερ* is used in order to say about the negative aspect of the authorities.

³⁰⁷⁹ The section in vv. 44-50 is arranged rhythmically as the statements of Jesus show the following style: statement 'B' (v. 45) strengthens statement 'A' (v. 44b), statement 'C' (v. 46) strengthens statements 'A' and 'B', statement 'D' (v. 47) further strengthens statements 'A', 'B', and 'C', and the like. By the end of the section (v. 50), Jesus comes to the kernel point of the speech: *first*, the Father's speech with the Son is eternal life (v. 50a); and *second*, Jesus' dialogue with the people in this world is based on the commandment (speech) he had with the Father (v. 50b).

³⁰⁸⁰ The words and expressions picked up by the narrator, the systematic arrangement of all of them, and the rhetorical effect on the readers come at a stretch within the episode. Cf. Kennedy, 1984: 15.

³⁰⁸¹ Pryor (1992: 53; cf. Denaux, 1992) says that, "... the coming death of Jesus will ... be no defeat but glorification: it will be judgment for the anti-godly world (v. 31), it will be the source of life for humanity (v. 32), and through these it will bring glory to the Father and the Son. Thus, in thoughts so reminiscent of the synoptic Gethsemane traditions, Jesus presses on toward the hour, concerned only for the Father's glory (= will, in synoptic tradition) and strengthened by the divine voice (vv. 27-28; cf. Luke 22:43)".

³⁰⁸² This *irony* from glory-focus to conflict-centeredness is the kernel point of the dialogic structure of the episode. *Irony* is at the centre of the Jesus-Jewish dialogues within the episode. Jesus increases his popularity; but Jesus' popularity is a shame for the Jewish authorities. The authorities attempt to destroy Jesus' popularity; but Jesus gains popularity even beyond Jewish boundaries. Jesus is the Son of God, the Messiah, and the Savior of the world; but the Jewish authorities are keen to destroy the Saviour.

³⁰⁸³ According to Carson (1991: 453), "Jesus has lived in unqualified obedience to his Father; he is now about to die in the same unqualified obedience, for he who is the Word-made-flesh (1:14) is also the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (1:29)". This factor is brought to the notice of the readers through different dialogues of the characters. Moloney (1998: 366; cf. Blomberg, 2001: 186) states about the final section of the episode in the following way: "In concluding this part of the story both the narrator (12:37-43) and Jesus (12:44-50) have insisted that Jesus makes God known, and that judgment flows from the acceptance or refusal of that revelation".

‘word’ that he has already proclaimed (cf. Dodd, 1960: 383-9; Pryor, 1992: 54). The point of the narrator³⁰⁸⁴ about the characters can be summarised as follows: *first*, Jesus, as c fulfills the scriptures, works according to the will of his Father, enters into the hour and toward the apex of the hour, and one who is going to be glorified through suffering (cf. 1970: 97-110); *second*, the crowd, as a mixed community,³⁰⁸⁵ is comprised of both the b and the unbelieving; *third*, the Jewish authorities, as the antagonists, are looking forward Jesus (cf. Von Wahlde, NTS, 33-60); and *fourth*, the disciples, as constantly misunderstand a connecting link to Jesus (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 131-41; Herman, 1995: 38).³⁰⁸⁶ The point of the narrator takes shape both through the medium of charactorial dialogues and thro narratorial notes.

Slot No.	Genre Tenets	Overarching Tenet/
Slot # 1 11:54-57	Content: The coming of Jesus to the festival in an unfavourable political situation; the whereabouts of Jesus in order to arrest him // Form: <i>implicit, question-and-answer, commandment for information, public and community type</i> // Function: It functions as a conflict-building dramatic introduction. The threads of utterance units are anticipatory as they lead the reader toward multiple questions. It also functions as a <i>proleptic</i> piece as it prepares the reader toward the forthcoming events and the dialogues.	The <i>implied dialogic</i> of the slot discuss ab possibility of Jesus’ c to the festival and his whereabouts. As the introductory slot, it g the reader toward the upcoming events and dialogues.
Slot # 2 12:1-11	Content: The conflict of Judas’ counterfeit discipleship model revealed through his speech over against Mary’s genuine discipleship model revealed through her action // Form: From Judas’ <i>protest</i> to Jesus’ <i>response, question-and-answer/challenge and riposte, action to dialogue pattern</i> // Function: By unravelling the character of Judas, the narrator is attempting to reveal the underlying conflict within the inner-circle of Jesus. While light and darkness dualism is one of the characteristic elements of Johannine dialogues, the representative roles of Mary and Judas as followers of light and darkness fit well within the overall framework of the gospel.	The <i>question-and-answer/challenge an</i> dialogue aims at unra two discipleship mo are in conflict with o another within the in circle of Jesus.
Slot # 3 12:12-36a	Content: <i>First</i> , Jesus’ kingship is revealed over against the Jewish understanding of the coming Messiah (vv. 13-15); <i>second</i> , Jesus’ popularity is in conflict with the expectation of the Pharisees (v. 19); <i>third</i> , other sheep (i.e., the Greeks) are added to the sheepfold of Jesus and his hour has come (vv. 20-28a; cf. 10:16); <i>fourth</i> , the Father has glorified the son and the crowd are misunderstood (vv. 28b-34); and <i>fifth</i> , Jesus invites his interlocutors to believe in him as he is the light of the world // Form: <i>Chain fashioned, circular, quest stories, processional, prayer-centered (petitionary and informational), theophonic, dualistic and metaphorical, statement-misunderstanding-</i>	The <i>chain fashioned/circular/p centered/dualistic/st misunderstanding-clarification dialogu conflict-centered an</i> emphasises Jesus’ ki (messiahship) and th expansion of his mis even beyond the Jew boundary (i.e., amor

³⁰⁸⁴ More details about the point of view of the story, refer to Stibbe, 1993: 134, 138.

³⁰⁸⁵ Moloney (1998: 355) points out that, “. . . Jesus departed and hid himself from them (v. 36b). This fine is marked by Jesus’ active and deliberate hiding”. On other occasions Jesus has left the scene to specific loc named companions (cf. 3:22-25; 4:43-45; 7:1; 8:59; 10:40-42; 11:54). As his ministry comes to an end he alone, hiding himself from “the Jews” in some unknown place.

³⁰⁸⁶ Tovey (1997: 256) points out that, “The point of view established by the discourse is one in which author is portrayed as having a close personal connection with the gospel’s story world”. Cf. Painter, 19 Lindars, 1972: 410-1; Strachan, 1941: 246-63; Robertson, 1932: 211-34.

	<p><i>clarification, conflict-centered</i> // Function: The narrator's initiative of introducing the dramatic conflict and characterisation broaches into sharp focus toward the end of the <i>BS</i>. The narrator of the story embellishes the theme of glorification through the aspect of suffering for the notice of the reader. By doing that the narrator made the role of the reader conspicuous, either to believe in Jesus and thus be part of the "children of light" or to remain unbelieving and thus be part of the "children of darkness".</p>	<p>Greeks). It also points out that the long-awaited hour of Jesus has come. The reader of the story is invited to believe in Jesus who is the light of the world.</p>
<p>Slot # 4 12:36b-50</p>	<p>Content: <i>First</i>, the scriptural prophesy is fulfilled in the unbelief of the people; <i>second</i>, Jesus' words (i.e., his dialogues, monologues, and other speech forms) with his interlocutors are according to the commandment of the Father // Form: A <i>promise-to-fulfillment narratorial section</i> about unbelief to a <i>soliloquy</i> about belief-and-unbelief conflict // Function: The undercurrent conflicts are further strengthened. The slot functions at large as a recapitulation snippet that abbreviates the entire <i>BS</i> and as a transitional pericope that links between the <i>BS</i> and the <i>BG</i>. The speech of Jesus in the form of a soliloquy is dramatic and that invites the attention of the reader toward the protagonist and ultimately to belief in him. The reader who travels with the interlocutors from the beginning of the story is persuaded to come out with her/his positive emotions (i.e., love) toward the protagonist and negative emotions (i.e., hate) toward the antagonists.</p>	<p>The <i>promise-to-fulfillment narratorial</i> section and the <i>soliloquy</i> section outline belief and unbelief concerns at an extended level. It states that Jesus' verbal exchange with his interlocutors all through the gospel is as per the commandment of the Father. Through the slot, the undercurrent conflicts are further strengthened. As a transitional passage it persuades the reader yet another time to be faithful unto Jesus.</p>

Table 130: The summary of the dialogue of the thirteenth episode

Part Three

Macro-Analysis and Conclusion

The above analysis of the dialogue in the BS, at the *micro*- and *meso*-levels enables us to make note of various findings at the *macro*-level (cf. Brown, 1966: 1: cxxxix-cxliv).³⁰⁸⁷ It also helps us to observe the outcome of the current research. In Part Three of the research, our main intention is to organise the details that we found in Part Two from a broader perspective.³⁰⁸⁸ Here we will look at the nature and function of the dialogue from the larger framework of the BS, followed by some concluding remarks. Thereafter, we will look at the possibilities of further researches in the field of dialogical studies.

1. Macro-Analysis

The nature and function of dialogue at the macro-level can be comprehended through the means of its development at the slot and episode (i.e., *micro*- and *meso*-) levels. In the following discussion, we will look at the development of the macro-dialogue in the BS with the help of the slot and episode details.

1.1. The Slot Development

The above analysis makes confirms that the narrative comments and the utterance units of the BS (1:19-12:50) function contributively to one another (cf. Tovey, 2007: 42-8).³⁰⁸⁹ Herman (1995: 13; cf. Bakhtin, 1998: 62) rightly states that, “Utterances do not stand alone. They are generally issued and exchanged in specific contexts, and form complex units, within wider units like *speech events*”.³⁰⁹⁰ What Herman says is proved in the Johannine utterances as they are attached to their contexts. The interactive nature of the utterances with the pure/formula narratives provide the reader important insights concerning the two major dialogue tenets of the BS, i.e., dialogues

³⁰⁸⁷ As John’s Gospel is structured in a different way, we were prompted to look at the text in a different pattern. According to Press (2007: 55), “Different kinds of texts require different canons of assessment and different strategies of interpretation”. What Press says here prompts us to explore the text of the BS differently.

³⁰⁸⁸ For a broader description about dialogue, refer to Womack, 2011; Majercik, 1992: 2: 185-8.

³⁰⁸⁹ Funk (1988: 2) says that, “To isolate the narrative text in a few well-chosen phrases is not, however, an easy matter, nor is it a simple exercise to locate the narrative text in relation to other parties to, and elements of, the narrative transaction”.

³⁰⁹⁰ Herman (1995: 27) says that, “The deictic field, unlike the symbolic field, is deeply anchored in the context of situation and to its spatio-temporal and participant co-ordinates, in particular. Person deixis includes the first and second person pronouns like ‘I’ and ‘you’, which encode participant roles in the speech event; whoever appropriates ‘I’ is the speaker and whoever, either singular or plural, is addressed is ‘you’”. For more details about “the Johannine sayings of Jesus and the question of authenticity”, refer to Ensor, 2006: 14-33.

between the characters³⁰⁹¹ and between the narrator and the reader (cf. Tolmie, 1998: 26-8).³⁰⁹² The utterance units of the dialogue are rhetorical as they function efficaciously within the narrative framework (cf. Lausberg, 1998: 2-37; Aune, 2003: 125-7). In the process of reading, a paradigmatic reader realises the interactive nature of the dialogue within the narrative within the slot-structures.³⁰⁹⁴ This interaction of the utterances/dialogues within the narratives within the slots at the micro-level dynamically work for the development of the narrative (cf. Brant, 2004: 27-30).³⁰⁹⁵ In the majority of cases, the narrator attempts to develop the narrative with the help of several slots (cf. episode # 1, 5, 7 [five slots each], # 9, 10, 12 [seven slots each], # 8 [three slots], and # 13 [four slots]). But in a few cases the narrator develops episodes with only one slot (see episode # 2, 3, 4, 6, and 11).³⁰⁹⁶ This development of the slots, as part of the narrative, takes place within the narrative framework of the BS (cf. Funk, 1988: 2-3; Helms, 1988: 9-10). This is one of the most significant narrative techniques of the evangelist. Part II of the discourse analysis clearly shows how the thirteen episodes are held together to frame the BS. In the process of the development of the narratives, sometimes the dialogues change to monologues (cf. episode # 10; cf. Ellis, 1984: 7; Elam, 1980: 53, 173, 183).³⁰⁹⁸ Some of the major tenets of dialogue at the micro-level can be viewed as follows (see Table 131):

Sl. No.	Types (at the micro-level)	References
1	Question-and-answer	1:19-28; 6:1-15 [question of test-answer of impossibility-action of possibility]; 6:22-59; 9:1-7, 8-12, 13-17, 18-23; 10:22-39; 11:30-57; 12:1-11

³⁰⁹¹ The 'I' and 'You' interaction is conspicuous in the dialogues of John. As Herman (1995: 1) says, "The of an 'I' with a 'you' in the speech situation is itself a form of drama".

³⁰⁹² Martin (1976: 27; cf. Buss, 2007: 9-18; Anderson, 2008: 93-119) states that, "The author, after all, world of the dialogue, moves the speakers and orchestrates their interaction, and directs the movement appointed end. Dialogue mimesis is bent toward the purposes of the author".

³⁰⁹³ In this sense, Johannine dialogues are mostly *reported dialogues* (see Lothe, 2000: 3-11; cf. Press, Chatman (1978: 176) says that, "A crucial element in the representation of dialogue is the identification of the speaker".

³⁰⁹⁴ Maranhão (1990: 14) says that, "represented dialogue is characterised by atemporality, by the logic of and counterargument, and by the central speaker who weaves coherence into the text for the reader. Also instead of describing, represented dialogue simulates actual events".

³⁰⁹⁵ Herman (1995: 13) says that, "The linguistic units of analysis appropriate to dialogue as interactional utterances".

³⁰⁹⁶ While slot number 6 adds a complimentary slot to the central slot, in slot number 11 an interludinal slot. The slots are arranged on the basis of the speech-turns of the characters. Herman (1995: 82) says that, "As order is concerned, the system generates different options again. Current speaker may select by name pointing, or whatever. This may well be the previous speaker, creating an A-B-A-B alternating pattern. On the other hand, the next speaker need not be the previous speaker, someone else could be selected and a different order B-A . . . could ensue".

³⁰⁹⁷ Köstenberger (2009: 115) says that, "The narrative style of John's gospel is continuous prose, unlike canonical gospels that consist of a collection of sayings and discourses. John's gospel features three main units: *first*, narratives; *second*, dialogues; and *third*, speeches or discourses". He (2009: 115) further says that, varying continuous prose with dialogue, is common in *bioi*, particularly in philosophers such as P. Apollonius of Tyana and Satyrus' *Euripedes*".

³⁰⁹⁸ Keener (2003: 2: 53) says that, "In fact, if we omit Jesus' discourses, John's basic accounts about Jesus resemble the traditions behind the synoptics. It is Jesus' 'teaching and self-presentation' which are more distinctive".

2	Request-rebuke-response	2:1-11; 4:43-54
3	Challenge-and-riposte	2:13-22; 4:16-26; 6:67-71; 7:14-36; 8:12-20; 9:1-7; 10:22-39; 12:1-11
4	Report-and-defense	3:22-36
5	Double meaning-misunderstanding-clarification	3:1-10; 4:7-15; 4:31-38; 8:12-20, 21-30; 9:39-41; 11:7-16, 17-27; 12:12-36a
6	Dialogue leading to monologue	1:19-34; 3:1-21; 5:10-47; 12:36b-50 [a soliloquy]
7	Dialogue to action	2:1-11 [dialogue-action-dialogue]; 6:5-14 [dialogue-action-dialogue]; 9:1-7; 11:38-44
8	Action to dialogue	2:13-22; 5:[9]10-13; 6:16-21 [action-dialogues-action-dialogue]; 12:1-11
9	Time of dialogue is the time of sign/action	4:43-54; 5:1-9 [question-response-command to sign]
10	Promise-to-fulfillment	1:23, 45; 2:13-22; 10:40-42
11	Implicit	1:36b, 41, 42b, 43-44; 2:5, 7-8, 9-10; 3:25; 4:27, 28-30, 39-42; 5:14, 15, 16-18; 6:16-21; 7:10-13; 9:13-17; 10:40-42; 11:28-29, 30-37, 54-57
12	Question-and-counter question	1:38; 6:60-66
13	Community type	7:37-44; 9:8-12 [a dialogue between a group and an individual]; 10:19-21; 11:54-57
14	Inter-religious	4:1-26, 31-38, 39-42; 7:14-36 [religious-theological]; 8:31-59
15	Controversial/conflict-centered	5:1-13; 6:22-59; 7:14-36; 8:31-59; 9:1-41; 11:7-16, 17-27; 12:12-36a
16	Forensic	7:45-52; 8:31-59; 9:8-12, 13-17, 18-23, 24-34, 39-41; 10:22-39
17	Multi-layered	1:35-42, 43-51; 2:1-11; 4:1-26; 9:8-12, 13-17; 11:10-37, 38-44
18	Foreground and background	4:1-26/27
19	Front-of-stage and rear-of-stage	4:28-30/31-38; 7:45-52
20	Interlude	4:27, 28-30; 10:40-42

Table 131: Dialogue tenets at the micro-level

The above table (i.e., Table 131) helps us to identify some of the major dialogue trends at the micro-level (cf. Press, 2007: 57). The narrator uses *question-and-answer* (1:19-28; 6:1-15;³⁰⁹⁹ 6:22-59, 67-71; 9:1-7, 8-12, 13-17, 18-23; 10:22-39; 11:30-37, 54-57; 12:1-11),³¹⁰⁰ *request-rebuke-response* (2:1-11; 4:43-54),³¹⁰¹ *challenge-and-riposte* (2:13-22; 4:16-26; 6:67-71; 7:14-36; 8:12-20; 9:1-7; 10:22-39; 12:1-11; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 71-2, 79, 93, 100), *report-and-defense* (3:22-

³⁰⁹⁹ Here it is in a *question of test-answer of impossibility-action of possibility* sequence.

³¹⁰⁰ Aune (2003: 126) states that, "In revelatory literature of the Greco-Roman period, particularly in Jewish and Christian apocalypses, Gnostic dialogues, and the Hermetic literature, divine revelation is frequently elicited through a question-and-answer format (*erotapokrisis*). The questions are posed by a mortal, and the revelatory answers are provided by a supernatural being".

³¹⁰¹ For more details about the Johannine style of *suggestion*, *negative response*, and *positive action*, refer to Neyrey, 2007: 65; Köstenberger, 1999: 72-4.

36), and other forms of dialogues at the micro-level in order to present the story c persuasively to the reader.³¹⁰² Other formats of dialogues such as *double m. misunderstanding-clarification* (3:1-10; 4:7-15; 4:31-38; 8:12-20, 21-30; 9:39-41; 11:7-16 12:12-36a; cf. Ellis, 1984: 7; Neyrey, 2007: 12-3, 78, 90-1, 195-6),³¹⁰³ *dialogue lea monologue* (1:19-34; 3:1-21; 5:10-47; 12:36b-50),³¹⁰⁴ *dialogue to action* (2:1-11; 6:5-11:38-44),³¹⁰⁶ and *action to dialogue* (2:13-22; 5:[9]10-13; 6:16-21; 12:1-11) are al within the slot-structures of the BS (cf. Ellis, 1984: 7; see Table 131).³¹⁰⁸ The dialogues at level are grouped together to form the dialogues at the episodic-level.³¹⁰⁹ In the BS, the episodes³¹¹⁰ are organised with the help of the dialogues and narratives.³¹¹¹ The natur dialogue texts in the BS, as described in Part II, helps us to classify the dialogues bot

³¹⁰² See Table 131 for more details about the micro-dialogue trends in the BS.

³¹⁰³ In Platonic dialogues, on several occasions the Socratic interlocutors are presented as unkno misunderstanding characters. In *Euthyphro*, on one occasion Euthyphro says to Socrates, "I do not follow wh saying, Socrates". Cf. Cooper, 1977: 11; Resseguie, 2005: 64-7. Also see the format *statement-lie-cl* Neyrey, 2007: 159-60. For more details about 'double meaning', refer to Van der Watt, 2005: 463-81.

³¹⁰⁴ In 12:36b-50, it is in the form of a *soliloquy*. Cf. Genette, 1980: 170-1; Culpepper, 1983: 94.

³¹⁰⁵ Van Tilborg (1993: 1-4) sees the expression of love in concrete terms in John. He (1993: 1-4) says t becomes a reality only in a concrete, historical and social contexts. Like any other narrative also John concretises a number of circumstances of its characters. Thus it develops a love story which is different from narrative How the love develops all through the gospel is outlined by the author, beginning from Jesus' his mother in the story of Cana (2:1-12)". This expression of love is mostly developed through dialogues.

³¹⁰⁶ In 2:1-11 and 6:5-14, the narratives develop in a *dialogue-action-dialogue* sequence.

³¹⁰⁷ In 6:16-21, the pericope is in the form of an *action-dialogues-action-dialogue* narrative.

³¹⁰⁸ Also see other dialogue types such as *promise-to-fulfillment* (1:23, 45; 2:13-22; 10:40-42), *implicit* (1:36 43-44; 2:5, 7-8, 9-10; 3:25; 4:27, 28-30, 39-42; 5:14, 15, 16-18; 6:16-21; 7:10-13; 9:13-17; 10:40-42; 11:28 54-57), *question-and-counter question* (1:38; 6:60-66), *community type* (7:37-44; 9:8-12 [a dialogue betwe and an individual]; 10:19-21; 11:54-57), *inter-religious* (4:1-26, 31-38, 39-42; 7:14-36 [religious-theologi 59), *controversial* (5:1-13; 6:22-59; 7:14-36; 8:31-59; 9:1-41; 11:7-16, 17-27; 12:12-36a), *forensic* (7:45-5 9:8-12, 13-17, 18-23, 24-34, 39-41; 10:22-39), *multi-layered* (1:35-42, 43-51; 2:1-11; 4:1-26; 9:8-12, 13-17 38-44), *foreground and background* (4:1-26/27), *front-of-stage and rear-of-stage* (4:28-30/31-38; 7:4 interludinal (4:27, 28-30; 10:40-42) at the micro-level of the BS. In 4:43-54 and 5:1-9, the narrator uses the 'the time of dialogue is the time of sign/action'. The following are some of the most important structural John uses: question and answer, discussion or conversation, reported dialogue, dialogue approximating to n and monologue or continuous exposition (cf. Press, 2007: 66; Howarth, 2000: 16-66). As Press (2007: 66) : results in recurrent patterns, as well as great variety, in the dialogues".

³¹⁰⁹ Brant (2004: 27) states that, "In part, the episodic nature of the tragedies and the gospel is the re movement of characters on and off stage".

³¹¹⁰ Baldick (1990: 72; cf. Brant, 2004: 27-30) defines the 'episodic structure' as follows: "constructed as by a succession of loosely connected incidents rather than by an integrated plot. Picaresque novels and man romances have an episodic structure in which the only link between one episode and the next is the pres- same central character". Lindars (2000: 35) says that, "The Fourth Gospel is not episodic, like the Syn carefully planned with a series of set pieces, each leading up to a dramatic climax".

³¹¹¹ Martin (1976/1998: 26) says that, "A 'dialogue' to be a form of discourse established with a readin through imitative textual discourse. What this definition immediately suggests is that there are two layers o at work in a dialogue: one between author and reader, and another between the characters within the text".

micro-level³¹¹² and at the meso-level.³¹¹³ This description confirms to us that the narrator makes use of different categories of dialogue in the formation of the BS (cf. Du Toit, 2009: 217-65).³¹¹⁴

1.2. The Episode Development

At the meso-level, the narrator places two glory-focused revelatory dialogues³¹¹⁵ at the beginning (1:19-2:12) and toward the end (11:1-54) of the BS (cf. Kim, 2011: 53-62).³¹¹⁶ If we consider John 1:1-18 as the introduction and 11:55-12:50 as the conclusion (cf. Dodd, 1960: 368-89; Keener, 2003: 2: 858-89),³¹¹⁷ then the *glory-focused revelatory dialogues* (1:19-2:12 and 11:1-54) form a thematic inclusion within the BS (cf. Dodd, 1963: 223-32).³¹¹⁸ While the episode in 1:19-2:12 sets a strong foundation for the gospel through the transfer of role from John the Witness to Jesus the Word and his ministry, the episode in 11:1-54 inaugurates the passion and leads toward the end of his ministry (cf. Staley, 2008: 197; Umoh, 2000: 3-5).³¹¹⁹ In both cases, dialogues are used as the important literary phenomenon. Also in both cases the dialogues are leading to/centered on signs performed by Jesus (cf. Lincoln, 2008: 211-32; Dodd, 1960: 363-8). While in the first case the miracle is performed in a context of a wedding, in the second case it is done in a context of death and bereavement. All other episodes within the BS are framed within this inclusion, except for the concluding episode in 11:55-12:50 that accelerates toward the climax and is structured as a *conflict-centered* one.

The second episode (2:13-25) maintains a *challenge-and-riposte* format (cf. Hakola, 2005: 87-9; Dodd, 1963: 156-62). Though the challenge-and-riposte format is a continuous trend in the BS (cf. 4:16-26; 6:67-71; 7:14-36; 8:12-20; 9:1-7; 10:22-39; 12:1-11), it is used to develop an independent episode only in 2:13-22.³¹²⁰ In 2:13-25, through a dialogue-centered action, Jesus reveals his authority at the religio-political headquarter of Judaism, i.e., the temple at Jerusalem (cf.

³¹¹² As Table 131 shows.

³¹¹³ As the thirteen episodes show.

³¹¹⁴ Just as Plato frames dialogues based on Socratic dialectic with his interlocutors, in John the narrator frames dialogues based on Jesus' verbal exchange with his interlocutors. Cf. Cooper, 1977: 1-16. For more similarities between Platonic Socrates and Johannine Jesus, refer to Van Kooten, 2005: 149-94.

³¹¹⁵ Salier (2004: 75) says that, "From the point of view of text to reader, the narrative has given the reader a clear perspective on the signs as the manifestation of the glory of the one who truly reveals God. The signs, Jesus' powerful actions, are significant as indicators of his person and work".

³¹¹⁶ For more information about the structural framework of John 11, refer to Bridges, 1991: 59, 146.

³¹¹⁷ Also refer to Talbert, 1992: 179-88; Webster, 2003: 91-9; Coloe, 2007: 105-22.

³¹¹⁸ For understanding the dialogues from a literary-theological perspective, refer to De Jonge and Van Duyne, 1978.

³¹¹⁹ Dodd (1960: 292-96) considers 1:19-51 as the proem and 2:1-4:42 as the first episode. In our analysis, we find that several episodes are structured in 1:19-4:42 (e.g., 1:19-2:12; 2:13-22; 3:1-21; 3:22-36; 4:1-42). Keener (2003: 2: 837; cf. Witherington, 1984: 106; Coloe, 2007: 83-103) discusses John 11:1-54 as follows: "Whatever its origins, this story is critical for John's plot development. This is the longest single sign account in the Fourth Gospel, and, apart from the Passion Narrative, the longest narrative without a substantial discourse section. In John's schema 'it is the climactic and most miraculous episode in the series of signs he presents'".

³¹²⁰ The *challenge-and-riposte* format is used in several episodes in the BS as one among other dialogue forms.

108; Kok, 2010: 168-93).³¹²⁶ This is different from the *religious-theological dialogue* of 7:1-52/8:12-59 (i.e., the ninth episode), where Jesus confronts the religious leaders of Israel (cf. De Jonge and Van Duyne, 1978; Leidig, 1979).³¹²⁷ In both the cases, Jesus introduces his “from above” ideology over against the “from below” ideologies of his interlocutors (cf. Nicholson, 1980: 21; *Crito* [Cooper, 1977: 37-48]).³¹²⁸ In the case of the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman a cordial relationship between the interlocutors is established. While Jesus reveals his identity to her progressively (4:10, 13-14, 17b-18, 21-24, 26), she advances in her understanding about Jesus and her faith in him (4:9, 11-12, 15, 19-20, 25; cf. Irudaya, 2003: 707-16).³¹²⁹ The dialogue between Jesus and the woman results in the conversion of many in the city of Sychar (4:39-42; cf. Hakola, 2005: 96-7; Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 419-77).³¹³⁰ But the dialogue between Jesus and the Jews in 7:1-8:59 develops in antagonistic terms as the brothers of Jesus did not believe in him (7:1-9) and the Jews attempted to arrest him (7:30, 44) and to stone him (8:59; cf. Dodd, 1960: 345-54; Bartholomä, 2010: 135-78).³¹³¹ The *request-rebuke-response dialogue* in 4:43-54, as the sixth episode, introduces the theme that Jesus is the giver of life (cf. Dunn, 1991: 359-63; Van Aarde, 2009: 409-15).³¹³² While the first request-rebuke-response dialogue in 2:1-12 appears as the final slot of the first episode (i.e., 1:19-2:12), the dialogue in 4:43-54 is introduced as an independent episode (cf. Dodd, 1963: 188-95; Keener, 2003: 1: 628-33).³¹³³ In the episodic development of John, a paradigmatic reader can observe the way the narrator uses *challenge-and-riposte* and *request-rebuke-response* dialogue forms both independently and among many other forms (see Table 132).

³¹²⁶ Sadananda (2004: 254) states that, “Chapter 4 speaks of a successful dialogue between the Samaritan and the Johannine community that unfolds at different levels—consultations, community scrutiny, inner-Johannine community ripples and a fruitful ecumenism”. Nortjé-Meyer (2009: 123) says that, “gender is constructed by the relation of a character to other characters, male and female of the same text and of other texts”.

³¹²⁷ As religious complaints against Socrates form the substance of Platonic *Euthyphro*, in John religious complaints against Jesus form the central stuff of the dialogues. For more similarities between Platonic Socrates and Johannine Jesus, refer to Van Kooten, 2005: 149-94.

³¹²⁸ Just as the Johannine dualistic and contrasting tendencies, Platonic dialogues use contrasts of ‘good and bad’ and ‘justice and injustice’ (see *Crito*; Cooper, 1977: 41-3). For more similarities between Platonic Socrates and Johannine Jesus, refer to Van Kooten, 2005: 149-94.

³¹²⁹ Leidig (1979) analyses the conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman and others from a faith perspective. She structures the entire gospel as conversations of faith.

³¹³⁰ O’Day (1986: 130) states that, “When one begins to divide John 4:4-42 into its component parts, the fourth evangelist’s careful interweaving of the different sections of the story become clear. A quick overview of the text establishes vv. 4-6 as the introduction, 7-26 as Jesus’ dialogue with the Samaritan woman, 27-38 as Jesus’ dialogue with the disciples, and 39-42 as the conclusion. A careful look at the narrative, however, reveals that it cannot be so quickly and crisply divided into distinct, self-contained sections”. Olsson (1974: 115) says that, “it is (4:1-42) manifestly *dramatic* in character and contains one of the longest *dialogues* in the gospel”.

³¹³¹ For more details about the dramatic aspects in chaps. 7-8, refer to Brown, 1966: 1: 305-68; Motyer, 1997: 122-210; Keener, 2003: 1: 703-74; Köstenberger, 2004: 226-75; Moloney, 2005: 193-213; Westermann, 1988: 59-60.

³¹³² For details about reading a text as discourse, refer to Louw, 1992: 17-30.

³¹³³ This shows the narrator’s role of introducing literary categories in his own way. In 2:1-12, a request-rebuke-response dialogue appears as part of an episode (along with other dialogue categories). But in 4:43-54, it is used as an independent category (cf. Moloney, 1998: 150-63). Similarly, while in 1:19-2:12 dialogue leading to monologue is introduced at the micro-level, in 3:1-21 it is used at the meso-level.

In 5:1-47, the seventh episode, the narrator presents a sign and a *controversy dialogue*³¹³⁴ to a monologue (cf. Dodd, 1960: 318-32; Culpepper, 1983: 91).³¹³⁵ As in the case of the episode (3:1-21), the narrator here introduces the pattern of a dialogue followed by a monologue. While the pattern is used in 3:1-21 in relation to a pedagogical dialogue, in 5:1-47 the pattern is used in relation to a sign and a controversy dialogue (cf. Dodd, 1963: 174-80; Motyer, 1990: 210).³¹³⁶ This pattern is used yet another time in the tenth episode (9:1-10:21), where a *controversy dialogue* leads to a monologue and further to a community dialogue (cf. Wright, 2009: 10; Stibbe, 1993: 105-6).³¹³⁷ This trend of dialogue leading to monologue (i.e., 3:1-21; 5:1-10:21) is one of the characteristic features of the Johannine narrative (cf. Ellis, 1984: 7; *Crito* [Cooper, 1977: 37-48]).³¹³⁸ But John uses the trend while dealing with different to using different patterns.³¹³⁹ As in 10:19-21, the community dialogues are also used in narrative segments such as 7:40-44; 9:8-12,³¹⁴⁰ and 11:54-57. While in 7:40-44 and 9:8-12, community dialogues develop at the intervals of the episodes,³¹⁴¹ in 10:19-21 and 11:54-57, they develop at the close of the episodes (see Table 132).³¹⁴² From this detail we understand that the tenth episode has two community dialogues, one at the interval (9:8-12) and one at the end (10:19-21; cf. Dodd, 1963: 181-8).

³¹³⁴ Keener (2003: 1: 65; cf. Robbins, 1988: 2-22; Hock and O'Neil, 1986: 26) says that, "Much of the special character of the Fourth Gospel appears in controversy narratives. This form is much briefer in the Jesus tradition reported in the Synoptics, where it resembles other ancient controversy-*chreiai*—that is, short stories of conflict generally characterized by the protagonist's wise quip". He (2003: 1: 65) further says that, "Because John's material has been shaped into his distinctive idiom it is 'less amenable to form-critical analysis' than that of the Synoptics; shorter controversy traditions could stand behind his Gospel, but it is no longer possible to identify them on objective grounds". Details about Johannine controversy dialogues, refer to Westermann, 1988: 59-60.

³¹³⁵ Dodd (1963: 177; cf. Moloney, 1998: 164-93) says that, "The colloquy between Healer and patient is a further consideration. Such brief dialogues are frequently introduced in healing stories of various types, in order to bring out certain aspects of the conditions under which, or the means by which, the healing is effected".

³¹³⁶ In Plato's *Euthyphro* and *Crito*, while Socrates' speech is increasing, Euthyphro's and Crito's speech is decreasing. This method is also seen in John's dialogues. Cf. Cooper, 1977: 44-8; Majercik, 1992: 2: 185-186; Peprah, 2001: 11-51.

³¹³⁷ Schneiders (2002: 191; cf. Painter, 1986: 31-61; Keener, 2003: 1: 194-214; Brant, 2004: 28-9; 1923/1993: 15-24) says that, "John 9 is related by the evangelist backward to the story of the healed paralytic at the pool of Bethzatha in 5:1-18 and forward to the story of the raising of Lazarus in 11:1-57". She (2002) further says, "John 5:1-18, the story of the paralysed man, is remarkably similar in structure, but strikingly different in outcome, to the narrative of the man born blind John 11, the raising of Lazarus, begins like John 9 In 11, Jesus raises Lazarus to life, revealing himself as the resurrection and the life as he reveals himself in 9 as the Light of the world". Through these similarities, the narrator establishes a relationship among the episodes.

³¹³⁸ Martyn (1968/1979: 23-36; cf. Duke, 1985: 117-26; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24) calls the story of the raising of Lazarus as a "synagogue-church drama".

³¹³⁹ In 3:1-21, the theme is 'new birth'; in 5:1-47, the theme is the 'authority of the Son of Man over the Sabbath'; in 9:1-10:21, the theme is Jesus' identity as the 'light of the world', 'door of the sheep' and 'good shepherd'. The pattern is: dialogue that automatically turns to be a monologue; in 5:1-47, the pattern is: a dialogue, a sign, a controversy dialogue, and an expository monologue; and in 9:1-10:21, the pattern is: a dialogue, a sign, dramatic controversy dialogue, and a community dialogue.

³¹⁴⁰ Here it is used as a dialogue between a group and an individual.

³¹⁴¹ I.e., episodes nine (7:1-52/8:12-59) and ten (9:1-10:21).

³¹⁴² I.e., episodes ten (9:1-10:21) and twelve (11:1-54).

The eighth episode in 6:1-71 has a sequence that moves from a *sign-centered dialogue* to *question-and-answer dialogues* (cf. Lindars, 1992: 118-9; Hylen, 2005: 43-52). While in vv. 1-21 two signs of Jesus are narrated with the help of both explicit and implicit dialogues, in vv. 22-71 we see an explicit dialogue in question-and-answer format (cf. Anderson, 1997: 1-59; Borgen, 1997: 95-114). In chap. 6, Jesus' performance of feeding the five thousand (vv. 1-15) and the subsequent bread discourse (vv. 22-71) are presented progressively within the narrative framework (cf. Dodd, 1963: 196-222; Beutler, 1997: 115-27).³¹⁴³ Though *forensic* nature is part of several slots (i.e., 7:45-52; 8:31-59; 9:8-12, 13-17, 18-23, 24-34, 39-41), in 10:22-42, the eleventh episode, the narrator introduces an episode with forensic aspects as the leading trend (cf. Lincoln, 2000: 12-124; see Table 132).³¹⁴⁴ Schnackenburg's (1980: 1: 114) statement is appropriate here: "If we begin with the narrative matter, the structure of the gospel as a whole displays a notably dramatic element, which makes it different from the Synoptics in the way the action develops and reaches its climax".³¹⁴⁵ The feature of the development of action and dramatic climax is obvious in the first half of the Gospel of John. In the BS, the narrator weaves several dialogic episodes sequentially (cf. Brooks, 1984: 3-5; Dodd, 1963: 322-34).³¹⁴⁶ This sequence of the BS informs the reader about the discourse pattern (*sjuzet*) of the story (*fabula*) persuasively (cf. Eco, 1979: 27; De Klerk and Schnell, 1987: 15).³¹⁴⁷

1.3. Some Significant Narrative Features

The above details of dialogue at the *micro*- and *meso*-levels inform us that the Johannine episodes create a world of its own to tell the story of Jesus. The development of dialogue in the macro-level can be better understood through the means of slot and episode developments. The narrator uses a

³¹⁴³ Also refer to Dodd, 1960: 333-45; Painter, 1997: 61-94; Moloney, 1997: 129-48; O'Day, 1997: 149-59; Kysar, 1997: 161-81; Menken, 1997: 183-204; Schenke, 1997: 205-19; Thompson, 1997: 221-46; Culpepper, 1997: 247-57; Hays, 1996: 140-2; Brant, 2004: 149-58; Harrill, 2008: 133-58.

³¹⁴⁴ Dodd (1960: 354-62) considers the section 10:22-39 as an appendix to 9:1-10:21. For more details concerning the Johannine dialogues with individuals and Jesus' teaching in the Synoptics, refer to Bartholomä, 2010: 75-292.

³¹⁴⁵ Powell (1990: 40) states that, "To understand the plot of a narrative, it is also important to recognise elements of causality that links events to each other. Causal relationships between events may be subdivided into categories of *possibility*, *probability*, and *contingency*. Only in the latter case can one even actually be said to *cause* another. The first category refers to instances when an event simply makes possible the occurrence of another".

³¹⁴⁶ In his well-known article on Johannine narrative style in the *Festschrift* to Gunkel, Hans Windisch cites John 4:1-42 as one of the best examples of "die breit ausgeführten, dramatisch ausgestalteten Erzählungen" in John and illustrates his assertion by translating the text as "drama" in seven scenes. In this group of texts he also includes the account of the man born blind, 9:1-41, the report of the raising of Lazarus, 11:1-53, and the final scene at Lake Tiberias, 21:1-23. Cf. Windisch, 1923: 174-5; Olsson, 1974: 115. For more details about the episodic development of the BS, refer to Brant, 2004: 27.

³¹⁴⁷ For details about Saussure's structuralism and discourse analysis, refer to Howarth, 2000: 16-66. For further reading about discourse analysis, refer to Fairclough, 1992: 3; Foucault, 1971. Keener (2003: 1: 54) says that, "Rather than implying that John used tradition or remembered discourses in an unusual manner, the Fourth Gospel's discourses may imply that he developed his tradition or memories in a manner different from that of the Synoptics". He (2003: 1: 54) further says that, "Guided by the Paraclete, John may have developed his material as would Jewish haggadists or targumists, or Greco-Roman authors practicing the rhetorical technique of elaboration. In this way he would remain faithful to his tradition while expounding its meaning for his own generation".

discourse pattern in his own idiom in order to tell the events in a reader-friendly manner (1979: 27).³¹⁴⁸ Van der Watt (2012: 1; cf. Tovey, 2007: 67-73) rightly says that, "As in the world the narrative world consists of people (characters) that performs actions (doing things, talking) that leads to altered or new situations within a specific space (Jerusalem, the Galilee, and the like) and time (hours, night, day, and the like). This 'created narrative world' unfolds according to the plot based on the ideology of the (implied) author".³¹⁴⁹ The settings in John's Gospel (such as wedding, pool, temple, synagogue, sea, funeral and the like [cf. 1990: 69; O'Connor, 1980/2008]) are described according to the demand of the utterance and the dialogues within the slot/episode-structures.³¹⁵⁰ In the BS, the natural settings seem to complement the development of the dialogues (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87-120; Powell, 1990: 114). The topographical/geographical details of the gospel provide strength and originality to the dialogues.³¹⁵¹ Tolmie (1999: 105; cf. Brant, 2004: 90-104; Chatman, 1978: 138-45) says that "as no narrative can exist without characters or events, no narrative can be imagined without setting".³¹⁵² What Tolmie says is adequately proved through the narrative development of the BS. The narrator of the story introduces the settings in dynamic connectivity with the characters, actions and movements, and their utterances. Moreover, it is done through the incorporation of several narrative asides and literary devices. The narrator's intent to develop the dialogues and the closer relationship with the narrative settings provides special force for the slot/episode development of the BS.

The dialogue of the BS is imitation of the real situation of Jesus' life and ministry. The narrative style of the evangelist copies the life situation of Jesus through means of all the literary elements. The *mimetic* function of the dialogue is obvious especially in the BS. (Auerbach, 2003; Woodruff, 1992: 73-94).³¹⁵⁴ As Van der Watt (2012: 8; cf. Genette, 1980: 15)

³¹⁴⁸ Van der Watt (2007: 6) says that, "The Johannine documents are unique within New Testament literature in their own way, they reflect on the life and teachings of Jesus, using typically Johannine concepts, expressions, and style. These documents were embedded into the ancient contexts within which they originated, gently to the world that surrounded them".

³¹⁴⁹ Also see Stibbe, 1992: 9; Tannehill, 1984: 229; De Klerk and Schnell, 1987: 13-5.

³¹⁵⁰ Press (2007: 64; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 76) says that, "... Plato provides indications of a recent historical event of day or of the year, or connection with an external event (a festival, banquet, trial, execution, funeral, and military public display), and these are often important in understanding the dialogue as a whole".

³¹⁵¹ Guthrie (1961/1990: 262) says that, "On numerous occasions topographical details are given in the Gospel, sometimes in narratives where the synoptic parallels lack them. There is mention of two Bethanys (1:28), of Aenon near Salim (3:23), of Cana in Galilee (2:1; 4:46; 21:1), of Tiberias as an alternative name for the Sea of Galilee (6:1; 21:1), of Sychar near Shechem (4:5), Mount Gerizim near a well (4:21), and of Ephraim near the well of the serpent (11:54)".

³¹⁵² Beacham (1993: 114; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 87-120) says that, "The overall arrangement of the setting is important; it is through it that the actor makes contact with and assumes reality within the space". In Plato (cf. Press, 2007: 64-5; Cooper, 1977), "The courthouse setting of the *Euthyphro* and the prison setting of the *Crito* and *Phaedo*, heighten both dramatic intensity and the philosophic seriousness of the discussion".

³¹⁵³ For more details about John as an eye-witness, refer to Guthrie, 1961/1990: 263-4.

³¹⁵⁴ 'Mimesis' is by title 'a presentation of reality' (cf. Auerbach, 2003; Culpepper, 1983: 80-1). Regarding Quintilian (*Inst.* 10.2.1-2; cf. Brant, 2004: 13) writes, "There can be no doubt that in art no small portion

Larsen, 2008: 31) says that, "Mimesis, copying Jesus, becomes a central theme in the Johannine literature".³¹⁵⁵ Some narrative similarities between the Platonic and the Johannine dialogues are conspicuous to the reader.³¹⁵⁶ Plato's literary style transformed the real-life conversations of Socrates with his friends and students into creative 'inventions' which incorporated various dramatic elements for the purpose of progressing toward a philosophical truth (cf. Majercik, 1992: 2: 185; Van Kooten, 2005: 168-77).³¹⁵⁷ Similarly, in John, the narrator attempts to imitate the real-life conversations of Jesus with his interlocutors and incorporates the philosophical, theological, and community aspects.³¹⁵⁸ Just as Socratic *elenchus*,³¹⁵⁹ in John, Jesus is continually in dialogue with his interlocutors and brings them to the knowledge that they are "not in the know". Their "not in the know" is brought in sharp contrast with Jesus' "in the know" for the progression of the dialogue (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 50-4). As the Platonic protagonist uses the method of *epagoge* (induction),³¹⁶⁰ in the BS, Jesus emphasises the 'from above' aspects as requirements for his interlocutors. From that particular point of view the issues and people are approached. As universalism is one of the significant tenets of Johannine theology, the particulars are viewed with an intention of universal expansion. This aspect of development from the particular to the universal provides an eternal effect for the message of John. As in the case of Socratic *definition*,³¹⁶¹ in the BS, Jesus is portrayed as the authentic interpreter and the one who can define things. Denning-Bolle (1992: 72-3) states that, "these three 'elements' [i.e., *elenchus*, *epagoge*, and *definition*] are

lies in imitation, since, although invention came first and is all-important, it is expedient to imitate whatever has been invented with success. And it is universal rule of life that we should wish to copy what we approve in others".

³¹⁵⁵ Powell (1990: 11; cf. Majercik, 1992: 2: 185) says that, "Mimetic types of criticism view the literary work as a reflection of the outer world or of human life and evaluate it in terms of the truth or accuracy of its representation".

³¹⁵⁶ Van Kooten (2005: 168) says that, "John's acquaintance with Plato could be the result of formal, institutionalised education, but that is not necessary, as a whole range of formal and informal training and teaching in Greek language, culture, and philosophy was available throughout the Mediterranean world. Jews had access to it, too. That they even had knowledge of Plato is clear from explicit references to him by Jews such as Aristobulus, Philo of Alexandria, Josephus, and Justus of Tiberias".

³¹⁵⁷ Denning-Bolle (1992: 72, 76; cf. Guthrie, 1975: 65; Gundert, 1968: 16) states that, "In Plato, the dialogue presented the best form in which to encapsulate the lively sort of exchange of which Socrates was a master. The written form of the dialogue was to act simply as an aid to memory but was never meant to take the place of verbal debate".

³¹⁵⁸ John is a creative imitator. Brant (2004: 13) comments about Quintilian as follows: "Quintilian goes on to decry blind imitation for its failure in invention and encourages his student to understand what he imitates and why it is good (*Inst.* 10.2.18). In the imitation of orators and poets, he encouraged the study of how circumstances and persons were handled, the arrangement of judgments, the manner in which they spoke, procedures, methods, the appeal to emotions, and the manner in which they used applause to serve their case (*Inst.* 10.2.27)".

³¹⁵⁹ Denning-Bolle (1992: 72) defines that, "It consisted of the continual interrogation of a person in order to help him to realize that he knows nothing whereas formerly he had (falsely) supposed he did, indeed, know something". Robinson (1953: 83; cf. quoted in Denning-Bolle, 1992: 73) says that, "Dialectic demands question-and-answer because it demands *elenchus* and *elenchus* demands question-and-answer".

³¹⁶⁰ According to Aristotle (*Topics* 12), *epagoge* is the approach to the universal from a particular. The simplest method is that from one single case another single case may be inferred. From the cases one proceeds to the universals. Cf. Robinson, 1953: 33-4; Denning-Bolle, 1992: 72.

³¹⁶¹ Denning-Bolle (1992: 72) explains that, "Socrates poses a problem, usually of an ethical nature. He demands to know the nature of something by means of such questions as 'What is X?' (e.g., 'What is justice?') and 'Is X something we can qualify?' ('Is justice better than injustice?'). To Socrates, the question 'What is X?' was identical to enquiring after X's being or essence". He (1992: 72) further states that, "It is impossible, he maintained, to know what sort of thing X is until you know *what* X is. Thus, in the *Meno*, the question arises as to whether virtue can be taught".

not to be sharply differentiated from one another; they intertwine constantly and do not set themselves".³¹⁶² Though there are several stylistic similarities between Plato and John, the difference is compelling. While Plato attempts to describe the truth that is remote, in John the truth itself appears in flesh and in constant dialogue with his interlocutors.³¹⁶³

John uses a dialectic sort of argumentation³¹⁶⁴ to lead the reader toward a certain point. (Griswold, 1998: 221-53; Schaeffer, 1988: 389).³¹⁶⁵ In the BS, this characteristic tenet is derived from a dualistic point of view (cf. De Klerk and Schnell, 1987: 17-8).³¹⁶⁶ Anderson (2008: 1; Keener, 2003: 1: 65-6) makes mention about the development of the human-divine dialogue in John's Gospel through the means of dialectical thinking of the evangelist and of the Johannine schema.³¹⁶⁷ The narrative support for the dialogue is continually stated all through the BS. (1975: 1; cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 65-6) observes that, "Since in discussions of his [i.e., Plato] so much is made of dialectic as a technical or semi-technical term, it is worth noticing this use to stand for any philosophical discussion carried out in a spirit not of competition (as the Sophists) but of cooperation, not for personal prestige but solely to reach the truth". This point of the Platonic dialogues can also be noticed in the Johannine dialogues.³¹⁶⁸ In John's Gospel Jesus the protagonist is in constant dialogue with his interlocutors in order to reveal his messiahship and to lead them toward eternal life perspectives. The interlocutors come with intriguing questions and later on turn out to be either in the category of believing or unbelieving (cf. Baldick, 1990: 56). On several occasions, the narrator employs the *question-and-answer*, *request-rebuke-response*, and *challenge-and-riposte* methods in order to maintain the dialogic nature of the dialogues.³¹⁶⁹ The dialectical aspects of John develop as the *thesis*³¹⁷⁰

³¹⁶² Denning-Bolle (1992: 73) says that, "Socrates tried to arrive at a definition of something through *elenchus* but also through induction (particulars to universals)".

³¹⁶³ Anderson (2007b: 1) says that, "For most readers of the Bible, the Gospel of John comes across as a graphic narrative, drawing the reader into the story either as a friend or foe of 'the truth', whatever that might be".

³¹⁶⁴ Denning-Bolle (1992: 72) states that, "It was the dialogue from which most readily drew another person a question-and-answer format, the most characteristic form of Socratic argumentation".

³¹⁶⁵ Press (2007: 82; cf. Melling, 1987: 11-2; Majercik, 1992: 2: 185) says that, "The word 'dialectic' translates the Greek *dialektikos*, which, like the word *dialogos* for dialogue, comes from the verb *dialogesthai*. This family is used quite frequently in Plato's dialogues. The ordinary meaning of *dialogesthai* is 'to converse', but it acquires the more specialized meaning 'to discuss' in the sense of arguments about something that go back and forth between participants, as opposed to the one-way argument-giving that characterizes oratory".

³¹⁶⁶ Griswold (1998: 254; cf. Majercik, 1992: 2: 185-8; Halliday, 1978: 164-82) observes that, "In Plato's dialogues we always find, among many other things, lots of arguments". Denning-Bolle (1992: 73) mentions that, "The dialogue form is a literary device. Plato's famous dialectical method, on the other hand, is a philosophical phenomenon. *Dialektikè technè* (διαλεκτική τέχνη) is the art of using dialogue; dialectic literally means 'conversational method' (e.g., *Phaedrus* 276e)".

³¹⁶⁷ Anderson (2008: 109-11) states the following three aspects: *first*, any adequate interpretation of a theological theme must engage the *dialectical thinking of the Evangelist*; *second*, the *Johannine agency* is central to understanding the Son's relation to the Father and mission in the world; and *third*, dialectical Johannine theology is to further the *divine-human dialogue*, which the Fourth Gospel bespeaks and conveys.

³¹⁶⁸ For more details about the connection between Plato and John, refer to Van Kooten, 2005: 168-77.

³¹⁶⁹ Baldick (1990: 56) defines dialectic as: *first*, the art of formal reasoning, especially the procedure of settling questions through debate or discussion; *second*, the reasoning or logical structure that holds together a continuous argument or exposition; *third*, the interplay of contradictory principles or opposed forces, as understood in the European tradition.

*antithesis*³¹⁷¹ are united through a higher *synthesis*. The characters like Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, the blind man, and others engage in a dialectical duel with Jesus and realise the truth claims of the protagonist (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2:1).³¹⁷² In this sense, Jesus' interlocutors are transferred to a different (higher) level.

1.4. Signs and the Dialogue

The signs and dialogues are integrally connected in the BS and together they help the protagonist to reveal himself (cf. Dodd, 1960: 297-389; Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 515-28).³¹⁷³ While Platonic dialogues concentrate mostly on arguments,³¹⁷⁴ John's dialogues develop in association with actions and movements of the characters (cf. Cooper, 1977; Tolmie, 1999: 63-82).³¹⁷⁵ In John, the protagonist appears not simply as one who argues his cause but rather as one who proves his arguments through the means of signs (see Table 133).³¹⁷⁶ Keener (2003: 1: 251; Salier, 2004: 46-76; cf. Aristotle, *Rhet.* 1.2.18, 1357b) states that, "A 'sign' (σημείον) signified something beyond itself, and functioned as a proof or attestation; thus the term appears in rhetoric as well as in the context in which we employ it".³¹⁷⁷ This tendency of the connection between the utterances and the actions of the protagonist dynamically works within the narrative framework (2:1-12; 4:46-54; 5:1-18; 6:1-15, 16-21; 9:1-10:21; 11:1-54; cf. Black, 2001: 2; Hays and Holladay, 2007: 92-4).³¹⁷⁸

of philosophy influenced by Hegel and including Marx and Engels. Some schematic versions of dialectical philosophy speak of a unification of opposites in which the *thesis* is opposed by the *antithesis* but united with it in a higher *synthesis*".

³¹⁷⁰ I.e., accepting the messiahship of Jesus, believing in him, and be part of the experience of eternal life.

³¹⁷¹ I.e., not knowing or rejecting the messiahship of Jesus and the experience of eternal life.

³¹⁷² Kennedy (1984: 9) says that, "a dialectical dispute is cast as a *question-and-answer* dialogue".

³¹⁷³ Chatman (1978: 45) states that, "It has been argued, since Aristotle, that events in narratives are radically correlative, enchainning, entailing. Their sequence, runs the traditional argument, is not simply linear but causative. The causation may be overt, that is, explicit, or covert, implicit".

³¹⁷⁴ Press (2007: 75) states that, "Certainly one of the most striking features of Plato's dialogues is that they are full of opinions being stated by interlocutors, reasons being given, and then opinions and reasons subjected to criticism and refutation".

³¹⁷⁵ Barry (1970: 51) states that, "An action is . . . to mean the basic unit of striving, an act or deed, which may be pursued with words and/or physical movements".

³¹⁷⁶ Kennedy (1984: 15) says, "*Semeion* is a term of Aristotelian rhetoric as well (1.2.1357b), but is used there to mean a probable or necessary cause for an inference: if a man is just, it is a *sign* that he is wise; if it is raining, it is a *sign* there are clouds".

³¹⁷⁷ Morris (1995; cf. Witherington, 1995: 42; Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 17-30; Helms, 1988: 83-100) interprets the signs in closer affinity with the public discourses in 2:1-12:50. Witherington (1995: 42) talks about the arrangement of the BS in the following way: "this shows us deliberate schematising of this first major section of the gospel, which has the 'perfect' number of signs and discourses".

³¹⁷⁸ Köstenberger (2001: 8) says that, "The first half of John's narrative sets forth evidence for Jesus' messiahship by way of seven selected signs (1:19-12:50)". Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 129) state that, "The main aim of rhetoric in the ancient world was persuasion. Even though rhetoric functioned primarily in the civic life, knowledge of it is relevant to religious language as well, because reasons are often given why people should believe what is proclaimed or live in a certain manner".

Jesus' first sign of turning water into wine appears as the last slot of the first episode (1:19-2:12). Though he does not make a glory proposal anywhere in 1:19-2:12, the revelation of his identity is presented through a sign toward the climax of the episode (2:11; cf. Webster, 2003; Salie, 2003: 46-76).³¹⁷⁹ The story of Jesus' turning of water into wine proleptically works with his discourse in 15:1-11. Jesus, the one who turns water into wine, is revealed as the 'I AM' and the 'True Vine' (15:1-11; cf. Bailey and Vander Broek, 1992: 172-5). The entire episode in 1:19-2:12 may follow a typical sequence, i.e., a series of dialogue leading to a sign and the glorification of the sign (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 282-343). This format is different from that of the seventh episode in 11:1-54, where the protagonist proposes the glory at the beginning (11:4) and fulfills it toward the end (11:43-53; cf. Kim, 2011: 53-62). The common factor in both episodes is the use of dialogue as a rhetorical means to actualise the sign and vice versa. Dodd (1960: 363) rightly says, "Word and action form an indivisible whole, to a degree unique in the Book of Signs". In 1:19-2:12 and 11:1-54, the signs are performed, after a series of dialogues, as a means of glorification. But in 11:1-54, an antithetical dialogue develops after the performance of the sign (vv. 47-50; cf. Keener, 2003: 2: 835-57; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24).³¹⁸⁰ In that sense, though the episodes are thematically well-connected, the narrator employs other literary features to distinguish them distinctively to the reader (see Table 133).

No.	Signs	Connections with Johannine dialogues/discourses
1	Turning water into wine (2:1-12)	<i>Dialogue-sign-dialogue</i> pattern; the sign is performed after a series of dialogues (cf. 1:19-51) as a means of Jesus' glorification; Jesus who provides the best wine is later revealed, through a discourse, as the 'I AM' and the 'True Vine' (cf. 15:1-11)
2	Healing the royal man's son (4:43-54)	<i>The time of dialogue is the time of healing</i> ; the action of healing is supported by his utterances on 'life giving' (i.e., "Go, your son will live"; vv. 50, 53a)
3	Healing the invalid (5:1-18)	<i>Dialogue-sign-dialogue-monologue</i> pattern; <i>the time of dialogue is the time of healing</i> ; the performance of sign leads to a controversial dialogue followed by a monologue (vv. 16-18)
4	Feeding the five thousand (6:1-15)	<i>Dialogue-sign-dialogue</i> pattern; the feeding of the five thousand with physical bread leads to the revelation that Jesus is the 'I AM', the bread of life, and the bread from heaven in a question-and-answer dialogue format (6:22-71)
5	Walking on the water (6:16-21)	<i>Sign-dialogue-action</i> pattern; the dialogue is mostly proleptic in an implicit format; the miraculous arrival of the boat on the water is considered as a 'miracle within a miracle'

³¹⁷⁹ While Jesus himself reveals his identity as the Son of God/Messiah, performer of signs and wonders, made flesh, and the saviour of the world, the interlocutors reveal Jesus as the Lamb of God (1:29-36), fulfilment of promises (1:23; 12:38-40), eschatological prophet (4:19), and the revealer of truths. Jesus' signs reveal the giving of new wine (2:1-12), new life (4:46-54), healing (5:1-18), new bread (6:1-15), authoritative over nature (6:16-21), giver of sight (9:1-41), life and resurrection (11:1-57).

³¹⁸⁰ Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 112) says that, "New light is thrown on Johannine style when its poetic character is considered. Scholars began by comparing the strophes and meters of the OT and tried to show that the discourses of John were composed in 'hymnic' type of prose".

6	Healing the blind man (9:1-41/10:1-21)	<i>Dialogue-sign-dialogue-monologue-community dialogue</i> pattern; in the episode the performance of the sign causes a controversial dialogue leading to a monologue and a community dialogue
7	Resurrection of Lazarus (11:1-54)	<i>Dialogue-sign-antithetical dialogue</i> pattern; a series of dialogues results in a sign/glorification and subsequently in an antithetical/official dialogue

Table 133: The signs and dialogue interaction within the narrative framework of the BS

While the first Cana incident in 2:1-12 follows a ‘dialogue-sign-dialogue’ pattern, the second Cana sign in 4:43-54 follows a unique pattern in which ‘the time of dialogue is the time of healing’ (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 323-40, 461-77).³¹⁸¹ The third sign in 5:1-9 also has a pattern of ‘the time of dialogue is the time of healing’. But differently from the two Cana miracles, the larger framework of chap. 5 maintains a ‘dialogue-sign-dialogue-monologue’ sequence (5:1-47). While the fourth sign story (6:1-15) has a ‘dialogue-action-dialogue’ format, the fifth one (6:16-21) has an ‘action-dialogue-action’ format (cf. O’Day, 1997: 149-59; Hays, 1996: 140-3). The feeding of the five thousand (vv. 1-15) followed by the discourse of the bread of life, that is maintained in question and answer format (vv. 22-71), is one of the striking features of the chapter (cf. Kysar, 1997: 161-81; Menken, 1997: 183-204). In the episode, the action of feeding the five thousand is symbolically connected to the revelation of Jesus as the “bread of life” (cf. Coloe, 2001: 5-6; Koester, 1995: 1-31). Thus the entire chapter follows a symbolical action followed by a metaphorical speech (cf. Mooij, 1976: 1-18; Levin, 1977: 1).³¹⁸² The story of healing the blind man follows a ‘dialogue-sign-dialogue-monologue-community dialogue’ format.³¹⁸³ Though the format of the sixth sign story is similar with the third sign story [i.e., 5:1-47], there are noticeable differences between them. While in 5:1-47 the healed man’s role as a believer is not clear, in 9:1-41 the healed man’s progress in faith is recorded through his exchange with his interlocutors (cf. Dodd, 1960: 354-62; Martyn, 1968/1979: 24-151). Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 115) observes that, “These complexes of narrative include displays of doubt and unbelief, as in chaps. 6 and 9, and the reaction at the end of chap. 11, where unbelief leads to the Sanhedrin’s decision on Jesus’ death. For a receptive reader, all this is only a further stimulus to faith”.³¹⁸⁴ The above evidences convincingly show how the narrator employs different patterns to incorporate dialogues and signs

³¹⁸¹ Beets attempts to look at the symbolic significance of Johannine events. Beets (1995: 102) says that, “The conversion of water into wine may have, apart from its meaning as an event in the intuitive world, a symbolic significance; the poor water becomes wine, the purely formal manifests itself as matter, ‘reason becomes flesh’”.

³¹⁸² Keener (2003: 1: 251; cf. Witherington, 1995: 9-11) says that, “Signs fulfill a specific literary function in the Fourth Gospel, summoning the reader, like the witnesses in the narratives, to either faith or rejection (with emphasis on the former, 20:27-31)”. For more reference about ‘metaphor’, refer to Frey, Van der Watt, and Zimmermann, 2006; Aaron, 2001: 1-41. Also see Van der Watt, 2000.

³¹⁸³ Maniparampil (2004: 77) says that, “The lengthy discourses that are glued to the signs are Johannine meditations on the identity of the person of Jesus and his unique assignment”.

³¹⁸⁴ Schnackenburg (1980: 1: 115; cf. O’Brien, 2005: 284-302) further says that, “In other groups of narrative, as in chaps. 7 and 8, and 10:22-39, the visage of unbelief is shown as it stiffens and hardens. Chap. 7 uses the technique of brief, changing scenes to illustrate the conflict of opinions, the antagonism between belief and unbelief”.

as interactive elements within the narrative framework (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 14-5; see 133).³¹⁸⁵

1.5. 'I AM Sayings' and the Dialogue

Jesus' self revelatory³¹⁸⁶ aspects are potentially reflected through his "I AM" sayings (see 8:12; 9:5; 10:7, 9, 11; 11:25; cf. 14: 6; 15:1, 5; cf. Aune, 2003: 126-7; Carter, 2008: 123-9). The saying, "I am the bread of life" (6:35, 48), is stated after giving thanks and distributing the bread and feeding the five thousand (6:1-15; cf. Anderson, 1997: 1-59; Painter, 1997: 61-94).³¹⁸⁷ When he utters that he is the "light of the world" in 8:12, he appears as the fulfiller of the festival lights (or the festival of Dedication) described in chapters seven and eight (cf. Schnackenburg, 1980: 2: 189-92, 242; Koester, 1995: 5).³¹⁸⁸ His second usage of the expression in 9:5 is done in the context of giving sight to a blind person (9:1-41; cf. Martyn, 1968/1979: 24-15; 1996: 49-66). The utterances "I AM the gate for the sheep" (10:7, 9) and "I AM the good shepherd" (10:11, 14) are expressed immediately after the expulsion of the healed man from the synagogue (9:34; cf. Dodd, 1960: 354-68; Van der Watt, 2000: 54-91). In his response, Jesus implies that while the Jews expel people from their assemblies on account of him, he is ready to accept them as a "gate for the sheep". While the Jews are unable to solve the lifelong problem of the man who was closely associated with them in their assemblies, they are reduced to "idle hands". Jesus' significance as the "good shepherd" through his involvement in the life of the blind person (10:1-18; cf. Koester, 1995: 17; Lyall, 1996: 67-90) is brought to the notice of the reader (see Table 134).³¹⁸⁹ While the dialogues/discourses are presented in relation to some signs,³¹⁹⁰

³¹⁸⁵ De Klerk and Schnell (1987: 15) say that, "In most stories the sequence and coherence of the action is because the reader unconsciously looks for relations between events and tries to place them in a logical sequence. A significant factor here is the relation between cause and effect as a means of making the story progress, and then progress afresh and of carrying the reader along in this rhythmic pattern".

³¹⁸⁶ The dialogues of the BS are revelatory as they reveal several important aspects with regard to the life and ministry of Jesus (cf. Carter, 2008: 123-9). It is not only the aspects related to Jesus that the dialogues reveal but also the unbelieving and misunderstanding natures of the disciples and the Jews (cf. Press, 2007: 65; Culpepper, 1997: 65). The narrator's role as one who amplifies and makes the story rhetoric is significant to reckon with (cf. Wellek, 1955: 181; Mitchell, 2006: 615-33).

³¹⁸⁷ Köstenberger (2001: 8; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 12-4; Burge, 1992: 354-6; Lindars, 2000: 94-6; I. H. Marshall, 1999: 100) says, "John includes Jesus' seven 'I am' sayings (6:25-59; 8:12=9:5; 10:7=9, 11; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1) and numerous witnesses in support of Jesus' claims (including Moses and the Scriptures; the Baptist; the Father; his own works; the Spirit and the disciples; and the fourth evangelist himself)".

³¹⁸⁸ Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 10; cf. Van der Watt, 2007: 186-200) says that, "The great sign of the feeding (1-15), and its meaning is disclosed by Jesus' address on the following day (26-59). The Johannine description of the great feeding contains within itself all the elements which emerge later in Jesus' revelatory discourse about the behavior of the Jews. The symbolic character of the occurrence is forcefully emphasised: Jesus' deliverance of the Jews from their blindness and their purposeful action (10-12) shows his intention of revealing himself through signs".

³¹⁸⁹ For more details about the literary-critical analysis of John 9, refer to Resseguie, 1993: 115-22.

³¹⁹⁰ For details about the discourses of John, refer to Maniparampil, 2004: 77-8.

events, Jesus' self-revelatory aspect is the highlight through these "I AM" sayings (cf. *Crito* [Cooper, 1977: 37-48]; Kysar, 1975: 119-21).³¹⁹¹

No.	'I AM' Sayings	Connections with Johannine dialogues/discourses
1	'I AM' the bread of life (6:35, 48)	Jesus' breaking of the bread, feeding the five thousand, and the bread discourse are intended to reveal his identity as the 'I AM', the bread of life, and the bread from heaven
2	'I AM' the light of the world (8:12; 9:5)	In 8:12, the presence of Jesus in the Feast of Tabernacles is significant as he fulfills the meaning of the festival of lights; In 9:5, Jesus reveals that he is the light of the world through the activity of giving sight to a blind person
3	'I AM' the gate for the sheep (10:7, 9)	While the Jews send the blind-turned-healed man 'out of the synagogue', Jesus reveals that he is the gate for the sheep
4	'I AM' the good shepherd (10:11)	While the Jews did not recognise the issues of a man who was part of their own synagogue and thus remain bandits, strangers, hired hands, and thieves, Jesus recognises the issues of the man and becomes a good shepherd
5	'I AM' the resurrection and the life (11:25)	By the resurrection of Lazarus from the dead, Jesus symbolically revealed that he is the resurrection and the life; the utterance of Jesus is proleptic and rhetorical as it directs the attention of the reader toward his own resurrection in chapter 20

Table 134: The 'I AM' Sayings of Jesus in the BS

Moreover, Jesus' self-revelatory statement that he is the "resurrection and life" (11:25) appears in the context of Lazarus' resurrection from his death (cf. Bailey and Vander Broek, 1992: 176; cf. Kim, 2011: 53-62).³¹⁹² In all these occurrences, his self-revelatory utterances are always supplemented with complimentary actions (cf. Barry, 1970: 51; Keener, 2003: 2: 842-5).³¹⁹³ The aspect of dialogues centered on signs and revelatory "I AM" sayings is one of the peculiar features of the BS (also see 14:6; 15:1, 5; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 100; see Table 134).³¹⁹⁴ This feature is

³¹⁹¹ The 'I AM Sayings' in the gospel are presented as established sayings of Jesus (cf. Witherington, 1995: 20-3; Burge, 1992: 354-6). Earlier, Aristotle in his *Poetics* referred to the *Sōkratikoī logoi* ("Socratic discourses", or "conversations with Socrates") as an established literary genre. Garver (1994: 90) points out that, "Rhetorical argument can be ethical without the speaker being ethical. Aristotle thinks it makes rhetoric worse, not better, to try to depend on, and so infer to, the actual character of the speaker apart from the particular speech".

³¹⁹² Schnackenburg (1980: 2: 331; cf. Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 396-7) says that, "The Revealer's solemn presentation of himself as the 'resurrection and the life' is followed by a carefully constructed couplet which presents the invitation and promise to the reader in a combination of restriction and unlimited potential by means of the two terms 'die' and 'live', so producing an effect of mystery: 'He who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall not die to eternity'".

³¹⁹³ For more details about the linguistic character of John, refer to Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 105-18.

³¹⁹⁴ John builds the narratives around the sayings and actions of Jesus. This is also a proven factor in the synoptic evangelists. But the question is how far the evangelists were able to sustain the originality of the sayings of Jesus. This was same with the *Sōkratikoī logoi*. Kahn (1996: 1) says that, "What is known is that quite a number of friends and followers of Socrates celebrated his memory in literary form, after his death. Aside from Plato's work, only the writings of Xenophon have survived intact. Nevertheless, we have significant remains from at least four other Socratic

rhetorical as the narrator persuades the reader through the character of Jesus.³¹⁹⁵ In John's utterances go beyond their literal meanings and actually *do* something (cf. Funk, 1988: 3; 1997: 69-115).³¹⁹⁶ A paradigmatic reader can create a world of her/his own in the process of reading the gospel. In the language of Warren and Wellek (1955: 181), every reading is a performance.³¹⁹⁷ John develops his narratives and discourses in his own idiom and persuades the reader with a personal punch (cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 76-80). This narrator-and-reader interaction is poignantly presented through the medium of Jesus' "I AM" sayings.³¹⁹⁸

1.6. Content, Form, and Function of the Dialogue

The Johannine dialogue in the BS reveals its genre dynamics. John uses dialogue as a significant component within the narrative framework in order to present a more compelling and rich story to the reader. The interaction of the content, form, and function of the dialogue informs the reader about the unique features of it as a literary genre (cf. Carter, 2006: 3-20). In the following sections, we will see the way content, form, and function interact within the BS.

1.6.1. The Content of the Dialogue

The 'content', 'form' and 'function' of dialogues³¹⁹⁹ help us to understand the characteristic features of that literary genre (cf. Hernadi, 1972; Garver, 1994: 55).³²⁰⁰ The dialogues

authors: Antisthenes, Aeschines, Phaedo, and Eucleides. And we have at least anecdotal information concerning the author, Aristippus".

³¹⁹⁵ Tovey (2007: 75) says that, "These seven statements, the titles and descriptions . . . join with the works of Jesus (signs and speech), comments by the narrator, quotations from scripture, observations and statements of characters, and the account of numerous incidents and their attendant detail to provide a complex picture of Jesus to convey an understanding of his identity that is theologically rich".

³¹⁹⁶ In all these, John's Gospel uses the literary device called personification (cf. *Crito* 50-4; see Press, 2000: 1996). Press (2007: 60; cf. Tovey, 1997: 69-115; Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 10-7; Van der Watt, 2010: 13) notes that such utterances are *performatives*. Warren and Wellek (1955: 22) say that, "The defenders of literature will believe that literature is not an archaic survival but a performance". Garver (1994: 10) says that, "Aristotle's approach invites attention to rhetoric as an activity, instead of looking at the motives that might inspire a rhetorician or the effects that his practices cause. Rhetoric as an activity has its own values, criteria for success and failure, and intriguing complexity, and so to consider it as an activity, as Aristotle does, offers clear gains".

³¹⁹⁷ Stockhammer (1963: 224; cf. Funk, 1988: 3; Vorster, 2009: 505-74) says that, "Rhetoric is an art of persuasion; its effect is produced through the medium of discourse". Funk (1988: 4; cf. Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-35) says that, "The act involved is a communication. The medium of communication is of course language, but language is also the medium of narrative discourse".

³¹⁹⁸ Van der Watt (2007: 49) states that, "Several titles identify Jesus as the one who *reveals*. He is, for instance, the Word (1:1), prophet (1:21, 25; 4:19; 6:14; 7:40, 52; 9:17), Rabbi or teacher (1:38, 49; 3:2; 4:31; 6:25; 9:13; 13, 14; 20:16), and the 'way' to salvation and God (10:7-10; 14: 6)".

³¹⁹⁹ Hellholm (1986: 13; cf. Collins, 1986: 1-9; Aune, 1986: 65-91; Collins, 1979: 1-19; Chandler, 2002: 1-3) notes that genres participate in three separate, though related, aspects: form, content, and function. Hellholm's concept of genre is used as the basic principle for analysing Johannine dialogues here. Keener (2003: 1: 3) says that the genre of a work is its literary 'type' or category; the genre's frequent, hence anticipated, characteristics inform readers how they will approach it".

major semantic units within the narrative framework (cf. Thiselton, 1977: 75-104; Riemer, 2010).³²⁰¹ But the meaning of the utterance units and their function within the slots/episodes cannot be deciphered apart from the narratives (cf. Du Toit, 2009: 267-304; Greimas, 1987: 63-83).³²⁰² In the BS, the dialogues convey the theological meaning of the text in association with the narratives (cf. Bal, 1985/1997: 3-15; Barwise, 1988: 23-38).³²⁰³ The dynamic interlocking of the narratives and the dialogues/discourses is one of the primary features within the first half of the gospel.³²⁰⁴ The meaning of the dialogue can be understood primarily on the basis of the themes that are held together. The message (or the aspect of the 'what' of the text) is expressed through the utterance units and their function within the dialogues, the actions and movements of the characters, and the narrative asides.³²⁰⁵ Jesus' revelation of his identity, in relation to his Father, his disciples, and the Jews, is highlighted through the dialogue sections. Some of the major themes described in Table 135 are worth noting. Among them, one of the most prevalent themes is Jesus' identity as he is the fulfiller of the Jewish messianic hopes (cf. Evans, 1992: 579-90; Moo, 1992: 450-61). It is God who fulfills his work of love in the world through the agency of Jesus. This aspect of the fulfillment theme is expressed through several direct quotations from/allusions to the OT passages (1:23, 45; 2:6, 16-17; 3:28; 4:19-26; 6:30-33; 7:19-24; 8:33-58; 11:21-27; 12:13-15). Mostly the fulfillment language comes out in its full potential through the dialogues.³²⁰⁶ At the beginning of the gospel, the narrator introduces a transfer of role from John the Baptist, the witness, to Jesus, the Word, through a fulfillment formula (1:23). Jesus' role as the revealer of God's plan and his mission and glory is a running theme throughout the BS (see Table 135).

The dialogues, coupled with the actions, in the BS usher in a new order through Jesus' life and ministry, as he is introduced as the bringer of a new temple (2:19), the one who demands new birth (3:3), and the provider of new water and new life (4:13, 14; 4:46-54; 7:37-8; cf. O'Day, 1986:

³²⁰⁰ Press (2007: 55; cf. Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95; Aune, 1987: 46-76) observes that, "... Plato would not have recognised and surely would not have been interested in the distinction between form and content, the two being inextricably bound together The most important single point—something readers should always observe—is the difference between what happens in the dialogue and what effects Plato means this to have on the audience". In our analysis, we attempted to see the content, form, and function as three different genre components.

³²⁰¹ Garver (1994: 53; cf. Dockery, 1991: 57, 61-3; Barwise, 1988: 23-38; Tuggy, 1992: 45-67) asks, "When form is tied to function, what can 'form' mean?" Questions of this sort make us think rapidly in the process of reading Aristotelian rhetoric.

³²⁰² Literary critics like Warren and Wellek (1955: 34) say that the total meaning of a work of art cannot be defined. They (1955: 34) opine that, "The meaning of a work of art is not exhausted by, or even equivalent to, its intention. The total meaning of a work of art cannot be defined merely in terms of its meaning for the author and his contemporaries. It is rather the result of a process of accretion, i.e., the history of its criticism by its many readers in many ages".

³²⁰³ Just as a typical Platonic dialogue, in John, "the conversation topics themselves are historically contextualised rather than abstract perennial questions" (cf. Press, 2007: 57; Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95).

³²⁰⁴ For more details about the narrative dynamics, refer to Kermode, 1979: 23.

³²⁰⁵ Vanhoozer (1988: 26; cf. Greimas, 1987: 63-83) says that, "Text-oriented methods of interpretation aim at describing the immanent sense of the text. The goal here is to *explain* the text's form and structure (e.g., knowledge *about* the text) rather than to understand its reference (e.g., knowledge of what the text is *about*)".

³²⁰⁶ While Plato uses inter-textuality as a method to affirm the disagreement of Socrates (cf. *Euthyphro*), John uses OT passages to show the fulfillment aspect. Cf. Cooper, 1977: 11; Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95.

130).³²⁰⁷ Through dialogues the narrator also introduces the aspect of believing in Jesus resultant experience of eternal life (2:11, 22; 4:41, 53; 6:14; 7:31; 8:30; 10:19-21, 42; 11: By contrary, unbelief and the resultant judgment are brought together (6:64; 7:1-9, 30-8:59; 9:18; 10:19-21, 39; 11:57; 12:36b-41; cf. Travis, 1992: 411). The themes such as disc (1:19-51), missional harvest (4:7-38), and Jesus' universal significance (4:39-42) are aspects in the Johannine dialogues. The self-revelatory aspects are climax with the "I AM" of Jesus and their integral connection with the actions (6:35, 41, 48, 51; 8:12; 9:5; 10:7, 9, 11; 25 [also 14:6; 15:1, 5]; cf. Burge, 1992: 354-6). The dialogues also reveal the dualistic between belief and unbelief (cf. Wilkins, 1992: 1: 656-7), truth and untruth (cf. Crump, 19 62), and the 'from above' and the 'from below' (cf. Nicholson, 1980: 21).³²⁰⁸ It is ironic th risks his life due to his life-giving and eternal life-centered performances (11: 1-12:50; c 1985).³²⁰⁹ Proleptic themes that take the attention of the reader are the 'hour' of Jesus (2: 7:6, 30; 12:23, 27) and the 'lifting up of the Son of Man' (3:14; 8:28; 12:32; cf. Olsson, 19 Genette, 1980: 40, 68-78).³²¹⁰ The union and relationship between Jesus and his Father and of Jesus as the emissary of God have important implications all throughout the discou dialogues (cf. Hurtado, 1992: 270-6; see Table 135).

Sl. No.	Episode	Episode Title	Content
1	1:19-2:12	A Glory-focused Revelatory Dialogue	Transfer of role from John the Baptist to Jesus, messian identity of Jesus, discipleship, and God's glory is reve through a process of dialogues and the climax of a sign
2	2:13-22	A Challenge and Riposte Dialogue	Jesus' concern about his Father's house and his wish to the task of the Father, and a shift of emphasis from the temple to the 'new and eschatological temple'
3	3:1-21	A Pedagogical Dialogue Leading to a Monologue	The experience of 'new birth' is the central theme. Other themes connected to that are God's love for the world Jesus, the requirement of believing in God's only begot and the attainment of eternal life
4	3:22-36	A Report-and-Defense Dialogue to a Narratorial	The dialogue and the narratorial commentary reaffirm messiahship and superiority of Jesus through the witness activity of John the Baptist

³²⁰⁷ Keener (2003: 1: 54) says that, "Speeches could have a historical kernel, and John could have developed kernel, based on sayings, controversy-dialogues, or eyewitness notes or memories, without violating its basis in the case of John's narratives, his trustworthiness regarding the dialogues and discourses rests partly on the eyewitness tradition".

³²⁰⁸ De Klerk and Schnell (1987: 17-18) state that, "In John one finds a great many opposites: light versus faith versus unbelief, acceptance versus rejection, life versus death, insight versus obtuseness, truth versus human versus divine, power versus helplessness, obedience versus recalcitrance, abundance versus condemnation versus mercy, sickness versus health, spirit-filled versus demon-possessed, love versus hate authenticity versus hypocrisy, children of God versus children of Satan, joy versus sorrow, saved versus fruitfulness versus uselessness, and so on".

³²⁰⁹ For more details about the usage of irony in the NT, refer to Resseguie, 2005: 67-75.

³²¹⁰ Köstenberger (1999: 76) views that, "One of the devices by which drama is built in John's Gospel is the references to the coming of Jesus' 'hour'. Throughout the first major portion of the Gospel, Jesus maintains that *his hour has not yet come* (2:4; 7:6, 8; 7:30 = 8:20). When the Jews seek to arrest him (or even people want to make him king), he consistently eludes their grasp (6:15; 7:44; 8:59; 10:39; 11:53)".

		<i>Commentary</i>	
5	4:1-42	<i>An Inter-Religious Dialogue</i>	Messiahship of Jesus and the tri-tiered theme (i.e., water, woman, worship), disciples' quest about Jesus' surprising activity of speaking with a woman in public, missional and eschatological harvest, and Jesus' universal significance as the saviour
6	4:43-54	<i>A Request-Rebuke-Response Dialogue</i>	Jesus is the 'Giver of Life'
7	5:1-47	<i>A Sign and a Controversy Dialogue Leading to a Monologue</i>	Jesus' ability to make human life 'well', a controversy based on a healing on a Sabbath day, wholistic healing and demand for discipleship, identity of Jesus, and the equality of Jesus' work with that of the Father
8	6:1-71	<i>From Sign-centered Dialogues to Question-and-Answer Dialogues</i>	Jesus' role as a prophet who comes into this world, revelation of Jesus' identity as the "I AM", the antithetical worldviews of Jesus and the Jews, Jesus' re-affirmation of his words over against his disciples' unbelieving nature, the Twelve are affirmed in their belief, and Jesus' revelation of the 'devil' out of the Twelve
9	7:1-52; 8:12-59	<i>A Religious-Theological Dialogue</i>	Contrasting identities/ideologies/worldviews of Jesus and his brothers/interlocutors, the destination and the identity of Jesus, revelation of Jesus' prophetic role as the Messiah and its effect upon his interlocutors, revelation of Jesus' identity as the "I AM", juridical conversation concerning Jesus at the official levels of Judaism, Jesus' identity 'from above' and the interlocutors' misunderstanding nature, Jewish unknowing versus Jesus' knowing, and truth/freedom/conflicting kingships
10	9:1-10:21	<i>A Dramatic dialogue leading to a monologue and a community dialogue</i>	Jesus is the (I AM) light of the world/gate of the sheep/good shepherd, the identities of the healer and the healed man, unbelief of the Jews and escape of the parents, belief development in the healed man's life, and the theme of judgment
11	10:22-42	<i>A Forensic dialogue</i>	Jesus' messianic claims in the midst of Jewish antagonistic attitudes, and the fulfillment of John the Baptist's witness in the life and ministry of Jesus
12	11:1-54	<i>A Glory-focused Revelatory Dialogue</i>	Jesus reveals his identity as the Lord, I AM, the resurrection and the life, the Messiah, the Son of God, and the one coming into the world. The fulfillment of the proposed glory of God (of Jesus; v. 4) through the resurrection of Lazarus (also revelation of God's glory through Jesus). Jesus' popularity and the consequences that they may bring to the political scenario. Caiaphas' solution to kill Jesus to save the nation. Jesus risks his life due to his life-giving sign performances.
13	11:55-12:50	<i>A Conflict-centered Dialogue</i>	Judas' counterfeit discipleship model revealed through his speech versus Mary's genuine discipleship model revealed through her action. Jesus' kingship is revealed, his popularity is in conflict with the expectation of the Pharisees (v. 19), other sheep (i.e., the Greeks) are added to the sheepfold of Jesus and

			his hour has come (vv. 20-28a; cf. 10:16), the Father has glorified the son and the crowd is misunderstood (vv. 2 and Jesus invites his interlocutors to believe in him as the light of the world. The scriptural prophesy is fulfilled in the unbelief of the people, Jesus' words (i.e., his dialogues, monologues, and other speech forms) with his interlocutors according to the Father's commandment.
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Table 135: A brief description about the 'content' of dialogue in the BS

Jesus' role as the light of the world and the bringer of life and salvation has peculiar significance for the BS as a whole (cf. Shirbroun, 1992: 472-3; Marshall, 1992: 723-4). The opposition between Jews as they are the representatives of this world is deciphered through dualistic colour (cf. Barrett, 1982: 98-115; see Table 135). The incarnation of the 'word' (cf. 1:1, 14) and the actualisation of Jesus being the 'word' through his utterances of life (i.e., in the dialogues) continually impact the discussions of the BS (cf. Johnson, 1992: 481-4).

The theology of the dialogue is centered on the person and work of Jesus (cf. Hawking, 1980: 1: 153-72).³²¹¹ The emphasis on realised eschatology, through the experience of life, has more effect on the reader (cf. Ihenacho, 2001: 3-355).³²¹² The emphasis on the 'word became flesh and lived among us' (1:14) and the aspects of Jesus' introduction of himself as the giver of life and the light of the world control the entire theological discussion of the BS (cf. Von Wahlde, 1984: 575-84; Johnson, 1992: 469-71).³²¹³ The *logos-life-light* aspect (cf. 1:1-14) as the identity of Jesus and his representation from the Father pave a strong foundation for the narratorial development (cf. Dodd, 1960: 201-12; Vellanickal, 1977: 90-225).³²¹⁵ The first time the gospel presents Jesus as the communicator of the divine voice 'from above' and the dialogues with the world 'from below' for transformation (cf. Nicholson, 1980: 21; Neyrey, 1991: 156).³²¹⁶ He reveals the heavenly voice through his very identity as the son of God, considering his opponents as the representatives of this world (cf. Bauer, 1992: 774).

³²¹¹ Anderson (2008: 109; cf. MacRae, 1993: 103-13) states that, "From beginning to end, the theological character of the Fourth Gospel is thoroughly dialogical. The challenge, of course, is to understand clearly the epistolary character of John's theological dialogism and to interpret it accordingly".

³²¹² Allison (1992: 209) says that, "In Johannine thought eternal life (6:47), living water (4:14), bread of life (6:25-34), divine sonship (1:12) and even the resurrection (5:25)—all things traditionally associated with eschaton—may be experienced now".

³²¹³ O'Day (1978: 13) says that, "Literary analysis of biblical texts, analysis carefully attuned to the particular way each text is composed, is therefore not something superimposed on, external to, or alien to the pastoral appropriation of biblical texts. Literary analysis that takes the biblical texts most seriously (and therefore its own methods most seriously) must always attend to the integration of narrative mode and theological claim".

³²¹⁴ Denning-Bolle (1992: 73) says that, "Plato was convinced of two things: *first*, the method of dialectic is the way toward discovery and truth; *second*, only in question-and-answer did dialectic find its true being. And truth toward which dialectic aims? This truth is the essence or form (εἶδος) of things". In John's Gospel, Jesus is pictured as the essence of truth (14:6).

³²¹⁵ For more details about the God of the fourth gospel, refer to Thompson, 2001.

³²¹⁶ Thiselton (1992: 1) says that "texts may enlarge the horizons of readers. When this occurs, horizons become new horizons. Reading may also produce transforming effects".

dualistic framework brings a direct exchange between the two worldviews.³²¹⁷ Jesus is introduced as one who works according to the will of the Father, one who brings salvation into the world, and one who guarantees eternal life to those who put their faith in him (cf. Smith, 1984: 173-222).³²¹⁸ The unbelieving interlocutors are considered as the opponents of the divine plan and hence the sons of darkness. A dualistic contrast is at the centre of the story as the world 'from above' and the world 'from below' are in constant dialogue with each other and God wants people to be saved, attain eternal life, and to be attuned to his plan and purpose (cf. Dodd, 1960: 144-50).³²¹⁹ Thus in the BS, dialogues are built on stable theological grounds (see Table 135).

1.6.2. The Form of the Dialogue

At the syntactic level, we view 'how' the dialogue texts are structured (cf. Deeks, 1993: 77-101).³²²⁰ The 'what' (or *content*) of the dialogue is structured in specific formats and the plot-structure provides special force to the content (cf. Hellholm, 1986: 13-54; Aune, 1986: 65-91).³²²¹ Hence, the 'how' (or *form*) of the text is significant in the process of interpretation (cf. Beardslee, 1970: 14-29; Muilenburg, 1993: 65-76).³²²² The BS has its own syntactics that is organised by the help of literary conventions and devices, especially by the help of narratives, dialogues, and monologues (cf. O'Day, 1987: 12; Brown, 1966: 1: cxxxii-cxxxvf).³²²³ The dialogues primarily

³²¹⁷ Themes such as eternal life, hour of Jesus/God, lifting up of the Son of Man, and glorification are important to understand the development of the story and the advancement of the revelatory function of the dialogue around Jesus' identity as the Messiah (cf. De la Potterie, 1989/1990: 159-90). Jesus' self-revelations in the 'I AM sayings' formula and his signs develop interactively in order to highlight his personality.

³²¹⁸ The narrative development of the gospel describes that God, through Jesus, is in a dialogue with the world.

³²¹⁹ This analysis affirms that creative dialogue can enrich and unearth new theological perspectives (cf. Sadananda, 2004: 254).

³²²⁰ Dodd (1963: 317-8) says that, "Coming more directly to matters of form, we observe that whereas in the Synoptics it is the exception for a dialogue to be initiated by Jesus, and the rule is for it to be initiated by an interlocutor, the reverse is true in the Fourth Gospel. A dialogue commonly opens with an oracular utterance by Jesus". Dodd (1963: 318) further says that, "The interlocutor makes a response which indicates either blank incomprehension or else a crude misunderstanding. Jesus sometimes retorts with a reproach, but always the failure to understand provides him with an occasion to explicate the enigmatic saying or to carry the thought further".

³²²¹ Bakhtin (1998: 60; cf. Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 1-35) says that, "Language is realised in the form of individual concrete utterances [oral and written] by participants in the various areas of human activity. These utterances reflect the specific conditions and goals of each such area not only through their content (thematic) and linguistic style, that is, the selection of the lexical, phraseological, and grammatical resources of the language, but above all through their compositional structure". He (1998: 60) further says that, "All three of these aspects—thematic content, style, and compositional structure—are inseparably linked to the whole of the utterance and are equally determined by the specific nature of the particular sphere of communication".

³²²² In Platonic dialogues, content and form of the dialogue are kept in intense union. Schaeffer (1988: 389; cf. Muilenburg, 1993: 65-76) says that, "This intense union between form and content is much less noticeable in the Ciceronian dialogue. Cicero's dialogues are organisational structures that develop ideas according to deductive rules, not according to the dialectics of an actual conversation".

³²²³ Gilbert (1962: 5) says that, "Certainly the form of the dialogue has commonly been used since Plato's time for the presentation of matters that are to be debated rather than for the direct exposition of the beliefs of the author". Young (1998: 31-33) observes several narrative elements in Platonic dialogues such as: rare words, μήν in combination, words containing περ, the language of appearance and reality, forms involving πᾶς, questions and answer formulae,

develop at two levels: between the narrator and the reader and between the interlocutor story.³²²⁴ The dialogue of the interlocutors within the narrative framework effectively h narrator and reader interact (cf. Funk, 1988: 11-8; Windisch, 1993: 25-64).³²²⁵ That further the communication of the characters is important in the process of developing the narr reader dialogue (cf. Carter, 2008: 124; Green, 2003: 11-66).³²²⁶ In the BS, the dialogues monologues are the larger literary components that function within the narrative framev Elam, 1980: 19, 53-4, 91, 135-6, 173, 178-84). While the dialogues provide rhetorical for narrative framework, the narrative sections supplement adequate details to the dialogue order to provide specificity (cf. Black, 1996: 220-34; Court, 1997: 79-85).³²²⁷ The narrat as the interpreter of the story of Jesus is conspicuous through the narrative and dynamism.³²²⁸ At the structural level, the dialogues develop from micro-units³²²⁹ to meso- and from meso-units to the macro-unit.³²³¹ This *micro*-, *meso*-, and *macro*-dynamism dialogue within the BS convey the content efficaciously to the reader.³²³² As Chatman distinguishes 'story' from 'discourse', the 'content' and 'form' are distinct entities. dynamically merge together in the literary composition.

Sl. No.	Episode	Episode Title	Form
1	1:19-2:12	A Glory-focused Revelatory Dialogue	<i>Question-and-answer</i> , dialogue turned monologue, thr four-layered, cyclical, <i>request-rebuke-response to enc</i> sequential, sign/action-centered, explicit and implicit
2	2:13-22	A <i>Challenge and Riposte</i> Dialogue	Action (i.e., 'Temple Cleansing') followed by a dialog 'Temple Logion'), <i>challenge-and-riposte</i> , fulfillment-
3	3:1-21	A <i>Pedagogical</i> Dialogue Leading to a Monologue	Circular, revelatory, <i>double meaning-misunderstandin clarification</i> sequential, pedagogical dialogue turned a monologue, <i>teacher to teacher</i> dialogue

backward references, the anastrophe περί, avoidance of hiatus, and prose rhythms. These add narrative qu dialogues. In John, the narrator uses almost all of these sorts of narrative techniques.

³²²⁴ In her 2001 work, Reinhartz (15-31) considers "reading as relationship".

³²²⁵ Gabel and Wheeler (1986: 3) find the literary quality of the Bible as follows: "the Bible is a collection produced by real people who lived in actual historical times. Like all other authors, these persons used the native to them and the literary forms then available for self-expression, creating, in the process, material read and appreciated under the same conditions that apply to literature in general, wherever it is found".

³²²⁶ For details on the communication theory, refer to Van Dijk, 1995: 107-26.

³²²⁷ Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 6) observe that, "John indeed highlights the interpersonal and textual f language. The linguistic dimensions of how Jesus speaks (textual component) and with whom he speaks (in component) come through in a way not found in the synoptic narratives".

³²²⁸ John's presentation of the story is entirely different from that of the synoptic evangelists (cf. Boyd, 19 writing, Lieu (2005: 171-83) analyses John's distinctive way of writing. This is same with the prese Socrates within the Platonic and Xenophonic dialogues. Nightingale (1995: 4) observes, "it should be Xenophon's Socrates bears little or no relation to either comic or tragic heroes; nor does Xenophon borrow structural, stylistic, or thematic elements of the genres of comedy and tragedy". With regard to the pre dialogues, John shows more literary advancements than that of the synoptic evangelists. Cf. Teeple, 1974; 1987.

³²²⁹ I.e., the utterance units together form slots with the help of narratives.

³²³⁰ I.e., the utterance units and slot-units together form episodes.

³²³¹ I.e., the BS as a whole is a larger dialogue unit of the gospel.

³²³² For more details on the rhetorical and literary structural patterns of the fourth gospel, refer to Østenstad

4	3:22-36	A Report-and-Defense Dialogue to a Narratorial Commentary	A report-and-defence talk followed by a narratorial commentary, a complaint to a clarification dialogue
5	4:1-42	An Inter-Religious Dialogue	Inter-religious, <i>statement-misunderstanding-clarification, challenge and riposte</i> , tri-tiered (i.e., water, woman, worship), interludinal, implicit, foreground-and-background, rear-of-stage and front-of-stage, pedagogical/instructional, concluding dramatic utterance
6	4:43-54	A Request-Rebuke-Response Dialogue	<i>Request-rebuke-response</i> dialogue
7	5:1-47	A Sign and a Controversy Dialogue Leading to a Monologue	<i>Question-response-command, command-response-question, action-implicit dialogue-subsequent action, action-implicit dialogue-resultant action, implicit dialogue/controversy</i>
8	6:1-71	From Sign-centered Dialogues to Question-and-Answer Dialogues	Question of Test-Answer of Impossibility-Action of Possibility, dialogue-action-dialogue, action-dialogue-action-dialogue, mountain dialogue, sea dialogue, synagogue dialogue, abbreviated and implicit, elusiveness to revelation, non-recognition to recognition, question-and-answer, question-and-counter question, dualistic and antithetical, challenge-and-riposte
9	7:1-52; 8:12-59	A Religious-Theological Dialogue	<i>Suggestion-negative reaction-positive action, implicit and explicit, religious-theological controversy in a challenge-and-riposte format, an enigmatic pronouncement turned to be a community dialogue, a forensic dialogue at the rare of stage, statement-misunderstanding-clarification, forensic and antithetical</i>
10	9:1-10:21	A Dramatic dialogue leading to a monologue and a community dialogue	<i>Question-and-answer, challenge-and-riposte, sign/work-centered dialogue, forensic, implicit, judicial, antithetical, belief-centered, double meaning-misunderstanding-clarification, question-and-counter question</i>
11	10:22-42	A Forensic dialogue	<i>Forensic, question-and-answer, accusation-and-response, challenge-and-riposte, interludinal, implicit dialogue, prophesy to fulfillment</i>
12	11:1-54	A Glory-focused revelatory dialogue	<i>Indirect communication/dialogue, statement-misunderstanding-clarification, conflictive/argumentative/defensive, implicit, question-and-answer, from prophesy to fulfillment, from dialogue to action</i>
13	11:55-12:50	A Conflict-centered dialogue	<i>Implicit, question-and-answer, challenge and riposte, from action to dialogue, statement-misunderstanding-clarification, conflict-centered, soliloquy</i>

Table 136: A brief description about the 'form' of dialogue in the BS

As it is discussed in *part two* of the dissertation, the story of the BS is presented through appropriate transitions between the episodes, sequence of the events, and dramatic effects (cf.

Funk, 1988: 28-58; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24).³²³³ The thirteen episodes comprise several. The narrator arranges the episodes mostly with one slot (i.e., episodes 2, 3, 4, 6, 11), and with two slots (i.e., episodes 1, 5, 7) and seven slots (i.e., episodes 9, 10, 12). As an exception, there are three slots in episode 8 and four slots in episode 13 (see Table 137).³²³⁴ While episodes 2 and 11 develop with the help of one major slot each, episodes 1, 5, and 7 develop with the help of five slots each. The episodes with seven slots, such as 9, 10, and 12, are comparatively dramatic in nature (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Resseguie, 1993: 115-22). The episodes with one slot are often supplemented by either a monologue (i.e., episode 3) or a compliment (i.e., episode 6) or an interlude (i.e., episode 11). The use of sub-slots is a noticeable feature in episodes 8 and 9 (see Table 137). All the episodes are developed by the help of several dialogues. The BS as a whole is framed with the help of speech units, slots (and sub-slots) and episodes.³²³⁵ This analysis informs the reader how the *macro*-dialogue of the BS is formed by the help of several layers of *micro*- and *meso*-dialogues.

Episode #	Texts	Episode Title	Count of the slots
1	1:19-2:12	A Glory-focused <i>Revelatory</i> Dialogue	Five slots
2	2:13-22	A <i>Challenge and Riposte</i> Dialogue	One slot
3	3:1-21	A <i>Pedagogical</i> Dialogue Leading to a Monologue	One slot (dialogue to monologue)
4	3:22-36	A <i>Report-and-Defense</i> Dialogue to a Narratorial Commentary	One slot
5	4:1-42	An <i>Inter-Religious</i> Dialogue	Five slots
6	4:43-54	A <i>Request-Rebuke-Response</i> Dialogue	One slot (and one complimentary)
7	5:1-47	A Sign and a <i>Controversy</i> Dialogue Leading to a Monologue	Five slots (to monologue)
8	6:1-71	From <i>Sign-centered</i> Dialogues to <i>Question-and-Answer</i> Dialogues	Three slots (with three sub-slots each)
9	7:1-52; 8:12-59	A <i>Religious-Theological</i> Dialogue	Seven slots (with two sub-slots each)
10	9:1-10:21	A <i>Dramatic</i> dialogue leading to a monologue and a community dialogue	Seven slots (followed by a monologue and a community dialogue)
11	10:22-42	A <i>Forensic</i> dialogue	One slot (and one interludinal slot)
12	11:1-54	A <i>Glory-focused revelatory</i> dialogue	Seven slots
13	11:55-12:50	A <i>Conflict-centered</i> dialogue	Four slots

Table 137: Slots within the BS

³²³³ Brant (2004: 30-1; cf. MacRae, 1993: 103-13) says that, "The way that the author of the Fourth Gospel transitions between episodes, by employing the narrator to provide a short bridge that moves Jesus from one to the next, bears no resemblance to the transitions between major scenes in tragedies".

³²³⁴ It is also true with the classification of the Platonic dialogues: short length dialogues (i.e., *Crito*, *Euthyphro*), medium length dialogues (i.e., *Lysis*, *Laches*, *Apology*, *Meno*, *Euthydemus*, and *Parmenides*) and long length dialogues (i.e., *Symposium*, *Phaedrus*, *Sophist*, *Protagoras*, *Politicus*, *Philebus*, *Cratylus*, *Phaedo*, *Timaeus*, and *Gorgias*; see Press, 2007: 57; Majercik, 1992: 2: 185-8; Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95).

³²³⁵ For more details about the slots, refer to Part Two of the dissertation.

The trends of dialogue leading to monologue (episodes 3, 7, and 10), episodes composed in single slot supported with complimentary slot (episode 6) and interludinal slot (episode 11), and the existence of sub-slots (episodes 8 and 9) are some of the important features of the Johannine dialogue. The development of the story in the form of slots and episodes increases the chances of persuasion. The use of literary devices in the process of communication, i.e., between the characters, strengthens the articulative features of the narrative (cf. Press, 2007: 61; Carter, 2008: 124).³²³⁶ The narrator uses dramatic aspects as significant elements in the development of the storyline (cf. Ellis, 1984: 6-7; Brant, 2004: 16-73).³²³⁷ The speech-patterns, movements, and actions of the characters highlight the dramatic peculiarity of the story (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Greimas and Courtés, 1979/1982: 201).³²³⁸ In the process of developing the dialogues, the narrator employs *dramatic irony* (cf. MacRae, 1993: 103-13; Duke, 1985), *double meaning-misunderstanding-clarification* formulae, *challenge-and-riposte* and *request-rebuke-response* patterns, *question-and-answer* formats, and other literary forms and figures of speech/thought (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 56-78; see Table 136). While in the majority of the occasions the dialogues are presented in *explicit* format, the narrator also uses *implicit* formats on other occasions. Brant (2004: 16) states that, “much of the action of the gospel is presented through dialogue rather than narration”.³²³⁹ The content of the story is framed with intent and the form that is employed helps the reader in the process of interpretation (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 10; Chandler, 2002: 189).³²⁴⁰ The interlocking of the content and the form is further reflected in the functional aspects of the BS (cf. Chatman, 1978: 22-6; Carter, 2006: 3-20).

In the BS, the narrator’s potentiality is proved through the usage of literary figures of speech/thought (see Table 136). The reader of the story experiences new emotions in the process of reading (cf. Newheart, 1996: 48-9). The message is the vehicle that connects the sender and the receiver (cf. Du Toit, 2009: 111-19). This connectivity is established through the dialogue between the narrator and the reader (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 15; Aristotle 1.2.1356a). The development of the ‘story’ and the ‘discourse’ has striking similarity with the Greek tragedies (cf. Brant, 2004; Chatman, 1978). In the BS, the protagonist undergoes a situation of conflict (*agōn*) with the

³²³⁶ The artistic features of Johannine dialogue are important to note here. Before John, Plato did that with his dialogues. Kahn (1996: xiv; cf. Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95) says, “Plato is the only Socratic writer to turn this popular genre (dialogue) into a major art form, in rivalry with the great works of fifth century. Attic drama. He was also the only Socratic writer to utilise the dialogue form as the device for presenting a full-scale philosophical worldview”.

³²³⁷ Just as Platonic dialogues reveal their dramatic feature, John uses dramatic style at its best use. While speaking about the dramatic feature of Platonic dialogues, Press (2007: 175) states, “Why call this ‘dramatic’? Because, unlike dispassionate, rational theories or doctrines, the account is intrinsically exciting, involves striking, emotionally charged problems, confrontations, charges, successes and failures of the kind that characterise drama”.

³²³⁸ Barry (1970: 10; cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24) is true when he says, “‘Drama’ is meant to signify a play performed by actors on a stage”.

³²³⁹ Brant (2004: 16; cf. Templeton, 1999: 53-65) further says that, “Although these characteristics are necessary features of the Aristotelian tragic form, they are not unique to tragedy or a play, and their presence in the gospel could be attributed to the conventions of good storytelling if not for the fact that the way that these features are achieved and the purpose they serve render them theatrical as well as suspenseful. The author of the Fourth Gospel plunders a trove of theatrical devices and conventions in order to produce his plot”.

³²⁴⁰ Lee (1994: 23-35) says that in Johannine narrative form and meaning belong together.

values, goals, and norms of other characters (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 201-2; Powell, 1990: 4). This is ideological as it develops in the form of a conflict between his values (“from above” the dominant culture (“from below”) of the day. The conflict of the story is well established with the help of verbal abuse (*flyting*; cf. Brant, 2004: 123-39; Baldick, 1990: 84) between the characters.³²⁴² The controversial dialogues in John 5-10 make use of this dramatic element as a significant phenomenon. In the narrative, the crisis or reversal (*peripeteia*) happens when the interlocutors continue in their unbelief and when they reject Jesus’ messiahship (5:18; 7:52; 8:57-59; 9:35-41; 10:19-42; 11:45-53; 12:36-43; cf. Larsen, 2008: 26-31; Brant, 2004: 50).³²⁴³ As in the case of the Platonic dialogues (cf. Press, 2007: 135-7), in the BS, the reversal within the storyline provides additional punch for the development of the narrative. Aristotle, *Poet.* 11).³²⁴⁴ The *pathos*³²⁴⁵ of the protagonist begins in the gospel when the antagonists attempt to stone him and even to kill him (5:18; 7:45-52; 8:59; 10:39; 11:45-53; 12:27). Jesus recognises (*anagnōrisis*) that the hour has come and his time of being lifted up (12:27) (Brant, 2004: 50-7; Baldick, 1990: 8-9).³²⁴⁷ This opens up the unravelling or resolution (*dénouement* [*lusis*]; cf. Culpepper, 1998: 63; Resseguie, 2005: 205)³²⁴⁸ of the plot in the

³²⁴¹ In Aristophanes’ Greek Old Comedy, the contest or dispute between two characters which forms a major part of the action. For example, see the debate between Aeschylus and Euripides in his play *The Frogs* (405 BCE; cf. Brant, 1990: 3). Brant (2004: 140) says that, “The conflicts of the Fourth Gospel, with their accusation of legal intransigence, scrutiny of witnesses, and rendering of judgment, contain forensic language apropos of a trial”. and Schnell (1987: 19) say that, “In most stories conflict development is an important element As a rule, a character is confronted with certain adverse factors: he comes into conflict with persons (antagonists), circumstances which endanger him (and his helpers) or the cause he espouses”.

³²⁴² Brant (2004: 124) says that, “In literary flyting, found from the Homeric epics through Beowulf to Shakespeare, the contest contains insults, boasts, riddles, and miniature stories, and the merit of a verbal charge is measured by whether it remains within the limits of the facts. A key component of literary flyting is irony, for it is the audience who determines whether a point has been scored”.

³²⁴³ Brant (2004: 42-3; cf. Baldick, 1990: 165) states that, “When Aristotle asks what sort of action is appropriate for drama, he identifies three means of moving the soul to pity and fear (the emotions that drama ought to arouse): reversal (*peripeteia*), recognition (*anagnōrisis*), and suffering (*pathos*) (*Poet.* 1450a.34-35; 1452b.8)”.
³²⁴⁴ Resseguie (2005: 205) notes that, “Aristotle referred to the reverse in fortunes as a *peripety* (from the Greek *peripeteia*)”.

³²⁴⁵ Baldick (1990: 163; cf. Hernadi, 1972: 30) says that, “*pathos*, the emotionally moving quality or pathos of a literary work or of particular passages within it, appealing especially to our feelings of sorrow, sympathy, or compassionate sympathy”.

³²⁴⁶ Brant (2004: 57; cf. Aristotle, *Poet.* 1425b.13-14) states that, “In Aristotle’s theory of tragedy, *pathos* is suffering but rather actions by which suffering is wrought. Just as *anagnōrisis* and *peripeteia* are not dramatic elements, *pathos* winds its way through, and is constitutive of, the twists and turns of a plot”.

³²⁴⁷ Larsen (2008: 26) notes that, “Aristotle was probably not the first to use the concept of anagnōrisis as a *technique* in poetics, but rather engaged in an existing debate on the nature of tragedy that included the question of recognition. Nevertheless, the *Poetics* is practically the only surviving metaliterary discussion of anagnōrisis in Antiquity”. Culpepper (1983: 81; quotes Aristotle, *poet.* 1452a) reports that, “Recognition is, as its name suggests, a change from ignorance to knowledge, tending either to affection or to enmity; it determines in the direction of the ill fortune the fates of the people involved”. Brant (2004: 51) says that, “Recognition is a cognitive act and not something private. In a narrative, an omniscient narrator can reveal what occurs in a character’s performance piece, recognition must be played out on the dramatic and theatrical axes so that audience can witness the event happen. Two of the principal means of making it visible are the action that follows and the characters speak when the moment of recognition occurs”.

³²⁴⁸ Baldick (1990: 55) says, “*Dénouement*, the clearing up or ‘untying’ of the complications of the plot in a story; usually a final scene or chapter in which mysteries, confusions, and doubtful destinies are clarified”.

the gospel story (i.e., the Book of Glory).³²⁴⁹ In this structure, the BS is comprised of almost all the major plot elements except the *dénouement*.

The larger story of the BS has unity of action: a beginning (John 1-4), middle (5-10), and end (11-12; cf. Kennedy, 1984: 33; Culpepper, 1983: 80).³²⁵⁰ As Stibbe (1994: 35) observes a tri-tiered development, a paradigmatic reader of the BS can see a plot of its own. The coming of the λόγος from the eternal world (i.e., “from above”) to a world that marks the ‘hour’ of Jesus (i.e., “from below”) is narrated in John 1:1-51. His hour of glorification is expected from 2:4 (cf. 4:21; 7:6, 30) and the protagonist realises that the ‘hour’ of the Son of Man has come in 12:23 (cf. De la Potterie, 1989/1990: 159-90).³²⁵¹ This sequence creates an analeptic and proleptic balance in the narrative framework of the BS (cf. Baldick, 1990: 9, 178). While the first major section (chaps. 1-4) establishes the character and mission of Jesus in the mind of the reader, the second major section (chaps. 5-10) introduces the conflict in which the *theomachus* or ‘enemy of God’ comes to the fore (cf. Stibbe, 1994: 35). In the words of Stibbe, John 11-12 is a significant section. He (1994: 36) says that, “It is this event [John 11:1-54] which precipitates Jesus’ downfall (11:45-53). It is from this point that the Sanhedrin ‘plotted to take his life’ (11:53)”. The plot of the BS is built by the help of transitions (cf. Brant, 2004: 30-2) and by cause and effect (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 199).³²⁵² This careful construction of the BS forms a *plot within the plot* of the gospel. The above details enable the reader to understand that the plot-structure of the BS is correlated through the method of *stichomythia* (cf. Press, 2007: 64; Culpepper, 1983: 86-98).³²⁵³ From these, a paradigmatic reader can understand that the slots/episodes of the BS are rhetorical to form a dramatic plot within the narrative framework of the gospel.

³²⁴⁹ Bailey and Vander Broek (1992: 130; cf. Kennedy, 1984: 15-6) state that, “Writers about rhetoric did not fail to discuss the social nature of speech, because they realised that the character of the speaker (called *ethos*) and the state of mind of the audience (called *pathos*) affected persuasion”. They (1992: 130) continue saying that, “Because of this, speakers were taught to present themselves as authoritative and trustworthy and to develop ways of affecting the emotions of the audience as a means of constructing a convincing speech (*logos*)”.

³²⁵⁰ Brant (2004: 32-3) argues that, “The ostensible lack of unity in the composition of the Fourth Gospel has been the occasion for theories for displacement, various sources, and multiple editions. Those who argue that the gospel is the composition of one individual must contend with differences in style, inconsistencies in sequence, and unevenness in the finish of scenes. Nevertheless, these problems do not obscure the unity that drives the gospel’s plot. The gospel’s sequence of episodes unmistakably moves toward a climax”.

³²⁵¹ Talbert (1992: 179) states that, “The plot/story of the Fourth Gospel is simple. John tells of one who came as revealing, empowering presence (1:1-18); who picked/produced a new community (1:19-2:12); who provided them with warrants from his public ministry for a different kind of worship (2:13-11:54); who privately predicted what their future would be like, offering promise, parenthesis, and prayer for that time (13:1-17:26); and who ultimately made provision for their community life, worship, and ministry before he returned to whence he had come (18:1-21:25)”. He (1992: 179) further says that, “In between 2:13-11:54 and 13:1-chapter 21 stands a thought unit (11:55-12:50) that functions as a hinge”.

³²⁵² Culpepper (1983: 97; cf. Lincoln, 2000: 161) states that the “plot of the gospel is propelled by conflict between belief and unbelief as responses to Jesus”.

³²⁵³ Baldick (1990: 211) says that, *Stichomythia* is “a form of dramatic dialogue in which two disputing characters answer each other rapidly in alternating single lines, with one character’s replies balancing (and often partially repeating) the other’s utterances. This kind of verbal duel or ‘cut and thrust’ dialogue was practiced more in ancient Greek and Roman tragedy than in later drama”.

1.6.3. The Function of the Dialogue

The function of the dialogue is another significant area that contributes to understanding the development of the genre (cf. Hellholm, 1986: 13-54; Aune, 1986: 65-91). While semantics deals with the question of the 'what' and syntactics with the question of the 'how' of the text, pragmatics deals with the question of the 'why' of the text (cf. Press, 2007: 67-70; Van Dijk, 1976: 23). Why is dialogue a significant aspect within the text and how does that rhetorise the message in relation to the paradigmatic reader?³²⁵⁵ Moreover, at the secondary level, it looks at 'the dialogue invites the attention of the reader'.³²⁵⁶ In the BS, the dialogue between the narrator and the reader happens by means of the characterial interactions.³²⁵⁷ The narrator dramatically tells the story through performative language and especially through the medium of dialogue (Thiselton, 1992: 1-10; Levin, 1997: 1).³²⁵⁸ Davies (1992: 25; cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-20; 1961: 149-65) says that, "The attribution of direct speech makes a formal distinction between narrator and character, and creates a more immediate and mimetic effect, but characters in the Fourth Gospel do not use their own peculiar vocabulary or style of speech".³²⁵⁹ Hence, the layered dialogue (i.e., between the narrator and the reader and between the characters) functions in an interconnected way (cf. Press, 2007: 59; Reinhartz, 2001: 19-31).³²⁶⁰ The double-layered dialogue of the BS develops in a *narrator, dialogue of the characters within the text*, an interactional sequence (cf. Warren and Wellek, 1955: 34; Tovey, 1997: 44-52; see Diagram 55).³²⁶¹

³²⁵⁴ Powell (1990: 11; cf. Moore, 1989: 71-107; Chandler, 2002/2007: 194-6) says that, "Pragmatic types of texts are reader-centered and view the work as something that is constructed in order to achieve a particular effect on an audience; the work is evaluated according to its success in achieving that aim".

³²⁵⁵ Newheart (1989) even includes the psychological aspects that underlie in the process of reading the text. Van Dijk (1976: 4; cf. Coloe, 1989: 3; Green, 2003: 37-66; Van Dijk, 1981) speaks of a 'second naïvete' to describe the process of returning to a literary work a second time, bringing to this second reading the insights gained from the first.

³²⁵⁶ Culpepper (1998: 15; Malina and Rohrbaugh, 1988: 16-8; cf. Eco, 1979: 3-43; Vorster, 2009: 505-74) says that, "While the Gospel tells the story of Jesus, it also draws us as readers into it and seeks to move us along the path of responses to a higher level of response to Jesus as the Revealer".

³²⁵⁷ Strauss (1964: 53; cf. Berger, 1998: 295) says that, "the good writing must resemble the healthy animal that does its proper work well. This proper work of a writing is to talk to some readers and to be silent to others".

³²⁵⁸ Ricoeur (1988: 3: 173; cf. Tovey, 1997: 33-5) says that, "The moment when literature attains its highest efficacy is perhaps the moment when it places its readers in the position of finding a solution for themselves; they themselves must find the appropriate questions, those that constitute the aesthetic and moral problems of the work".

³²⁵⁹ Bal (1985/1997: 5) says that, "A *narrative text* is a text in which an agent relates ('tells') a story in a certain medium, such as language, imagery, sound, buildings, or a combination thereof. A *story* is a fabula that is presented in a certain manner. A *fabula* is a series of logically and chronologically related events that are caused or experienced by actors".

³²⁶⁰ I.e., between the characters and between the narrator and the reader.

³²⁶¹ Coloe (1989: 6; cf. Funk, 1988: 28-58; Green, 2003: 11-36) states that, "The dialogue between my twentieth-century world and the world of the gospel presumes that there is historical continuity between these two worlds, making possible that Hans-Georg Gadamer refers to as a 'fusion of horizons'". Gadamer (1975: 273; cf. Van Dijk, 1976: 4; Coloe, 1989: 6; Resseguie, 2005: 22-3; Du Toit, 2009: 110-20; Stibbe, 1994: 32-53) says that, "[T]he future of the present cannot be formed without the past. There is no more an isolated horizon of the present than there is an isolated horizon of the past. Understanding, rather, is always the fusion of these horizons which we imagine ourselves In a tradition this process of fusion is continually going on, for there old and new continue together to make something of living value". Lategan (2009: 464) says that, "It is useful to refer to the rhetorical function of the dialogue as a 'fusion of horizons'".

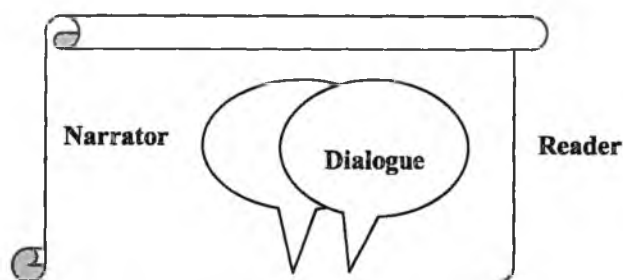


Diagram 55: Narrator, (dialogue) text, and reader interaction in the BS

The dialogue of the BS functions as a rhetorical device to amplify the narrative framework of the story (cf. Robbins, 1989: 161-93; Black, 2001: 2).³²⁶² Jesus' role as the protagonist is foregrounded from the very beginning of the gospel (cf. Baldick, 1990: 86; Tovey, 1997: 35). In the first episode (1:19-2:12), the dialogue(s) and the dramatic movements of the characters help the reader understand the fading ministry of John the Baptist and the transfer of role from him to Jesus (cf. Sternberg, 1985).³²⁶³ John's role as a witness to introduce Jesus the messiah is narrated through the means of several dramatic dialogues (1:19-36; 3:22-36; cf. Elam, 1980). Jesus' disciple-making initiatives through his interactions and his performance of a miracle at Cana attract not only his interlocutors but also the paradigmatic reader.³²⁶⁴ The revelation of Jesus' glory at the beginning of the gospel invites the attention of the reader right from the very beginning of the gospel (2:11; cf. Eco, 1979: 3-43; Ryken, Wilhoit, and Longman, 1998: 720-7).³²⁶⁵ The episodes of the BS focus on the identity of Jesus as he is described as the Messiah and the Saviour of the world (4:25-26, 42). Jesus persuades the reader to elicit and edify faith in him, directs the attention of her/him toward eternal life perspectives, and informs that he is the performer of signs, giver of life, and the 'holistic' transformer of the present order (cf. Press, 2007: 62; Chatman, 1978: 161-5).³²⁶⁶ The BS provides ample evidence to assert that Jesus comes with authority and power from his Father.³²⁶⁷ The narrative shows the conflict between the two worldviews ('from above' and 'from below') in

of communication in the reading process where the distinction between the 'implied' and the 'real reader' is explained. The key to activating the reading process is the implied author, which (in the description of Iser, 1976: 61) is a 'structured mould' [*strukturierte Hohlform*], that is, a textual space waiting to be filled, a role to be assumed by the real reader during the reading process".

³²⁶² While in Platonic writings dialogue is used as an exclusive literary unit (especially in *Euthyphro*), in John dialogues and narratives are used interactively. Cf. Cooper, 1977: 1-16; Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95; Tovey, 1997: 35-6.

³²⁶³ John the Baptist's leading in the first and second slots (1:19-28, 29-34) and Jesus' leading in the third and fourth slots (1:43-51 and 2:1-11) are linked by the third slot (1:35-42) where the transfer of role is smoothly dealt with.

³²⁶⁴ For more details, refer to Bennema, 2009; Tovey, 2007.

³²⁶⁵ Jesus' miracle of turning water into wine and the manifestation of his/Father's glory persuades the reader toward the identity of Jesus (cf. 2:1-11).

³²⁶⁶ John presents dialogue as a means to transform the social order. The narrator uses it with intent and care all through the BS.

³²⁶⁷ Hurtado (1992: 274) says that, "When John refers to God's works, it is most often to associate Christ with them. Like God, the Logos was 'in the beginning' (1:1-2), and God's creation was through the Logos (1:3). God, the judge of all who will reward the righteous with resurrection life, has now given to the Son to share in the judgment and to 'give life to whom he will' (5:21-22, 26-29)".

the incarnation and ministry of Jesus, and reveals the fulfillment of the messianic promise of life and ministry (cf. Barrett, 1982: 98-115; Evans, 1992: 587-9; see Table 138).

Sl. No.	Episode	Episode Title	Function
1	1:19-2:12	A Glory-focused Revelatory Dialogue	Transference of role from John the witness to Jesus the Messiah, focalization of Jesus, inviting the reader toward the Messiah in order to believe in Jesus (and for discipleship and disciple-making)
2	2:13-22	A Challenge and Riposte Dialogue	It persuades the reader to elicit and edify faith in Jesus 'New Temple')
3	3:1-21	A Pedagogical Dialogue Leading to a Monologue	The episode provokes the reader to <i>see</i> and <i>enter</i> the kingdom of God, being born from above, being born of water and believing in the saving work of the Son of Man, having experience of eternal life, and being ignited by the light of the world
4	3:22-36	A Report-and-Defense Dialogue to a Narratorial Commentary	The dialogue functions to inform the reader further about Jesus and to direct her/his attention toward the Messiah through characterial juxtaposition
5	4:1-42	An Inter-Religious Dialogue	Persuades the reader: to aspire eternal life experience, the forthcoming dramatic movements, to be a witness/proclaimer/harvester for the sake of the Savior. The reader comes to know Jesus more closely through his interference at diverse levels
6	4:43-54	A Request-Rebuke-Response Dialogue	It functions as a rhetorical piece for inviting the reader's attention toward Jesus who is the Giver of Life
7	5:1-47	A Sign and a Controversy Dialogue Leading to a Monologue	The dialogue persuades the reader to be made well (well) to acquire more knowledge about Jesus. It calls the attention of the reader in the activity of meaning-making. It also guides the reader toward the source of Jesus' authority and power
8	6:1-71	From Sign-centered Dialogues to Question-and-Answer Dialogues	The dialogue persuades the reader: to be a dialoguing practising follower of Jesus, and to be connected to the source of Life. It functions as a narrative embodiment of John's Christology, and a dramatic and creative literary piece that generates anticipation in the mind of the reader and in her/him toward believing in/following Jesus
9	7:1-52; 8:12-59	A Religious-Theological Dialogue	The reader is informed about the conflict and character of Jesus between Jesus and his interlocutors. The narrator persuades the reader: to take side with Jesus "the good man", and to identify with him and be a challenged personality. The dialogue persuades the reader to look forward with greater anticipation at the final role of Jesus. The reader is informed about the acceptance and rejection of Jesus at the official level. It also directs the reader toward the final forensic procedure of the gospel

10	9:1-10:21	<i>A Dramatic dialogue leading to a monologue and a community dialogue</i>	The reader is made aware of the conflicting worldviews. The dialogue functions as a sharp instrument in order to reveal the internal views of the characters. It functions as a rhetorically intertwined critique of the prevailing bias toward the minorities and the powerless. The reader is invited to follow Jesus who is the light of the world.
11	10:22-42	<i>A Forensic dialogue</i>	The reader is convinced to follow a journey of faith 'here' and 'now'. The implied reader of the story is once again convinced of the greatness and the truthfulness of Jesus' being as the agent of God
12	11:1-54	<i>A Glory-focused revelatory dialogue</i>	At the beginning, the reader is motivated to know the way God's/Son of God's glory would be manifested. The reader of the story who was travelling through moments of suspense right from the beginning reaches into surprise, and comes to the realisation that Jesus is an emissary from God, performer of signs by his very utterances, one who has authority from above, and one who glorifies the Father and himself through signs
13	11:55-12:50	<i>A Conflict-centered dialogue</i>	By unravelling the character of Judas, the narrator is attempting to reveal the underlying conflict within the inner-circle of Jesus. The reader who travels with the interlocutors from the beginning of the story is persuaded to come out with her/his positive emotions (i.e., love) toward the protagonist and negative emotions (i.e., hate) toward the antagonists

Table 138: A brief description about the 'function' of dialogue in the BS

The narrator uses literary devices, figures of speech/thought,³²⁶⁸ dramatic aspects and other means in the dialogues and persuades the reader to move toward discipleship (1:19-2:12; 6:1-71; 9:1-10:21; cf. Tan, 1993: 28-51; Garver, 1994: 52-103).³²⁶⁹ As in Plato, John makes use of irony as an important literary device, which gives a specific kind of turn to the meaning of the words used (cf. Press, 2007: 106-16; Keener, 2003: 1: 214-28).³²⁷⁰ Culpepper (1983: 165; cf. Duke, 1985: 7-42) says that, "The 'silent' communication between author and reader assumes its most intriguing form in the ironies of the gospel".³²⁷¹ This tendency helps the reader to be interlocked with the text. Culpepper emphasises that the aspect of 'believing' is the significant response expected from the

³²⁶⁸ For more details about the use of irony in the gospel, refer to O'Day, 1986: 63; O'Day, 1986b: 3-32. She (1986: 63-77) refers to the users of irony in the past like Aristophanes, Plato, Aristotle and his successors, Cicero and Quintilian, and others in her writing.

³²⁶⁹ Cf. Hitchcock, 1911/1993: 25-64; Strachan, 1925; Bowen, 1930: 292-305; Hedrick, 1933: 115-24; Muilenburg, 1932: 40-53; Lee, 1954: 173-6; Flanagan, 1981: 264-70; Pierce, 1960: 453-4; Connick, 1948: 159-69; Martyn, 1983; Domeris, 1983: 29-35; Nicholson, 1983.

³²⁷⁰ Schaeffer (1988: 389) states that, "The dialogues of Plato are the most philosophical use of the genre. To read them is to engage in the search for value that can only occur between persons. Plato uses the dialogue to portray this dialectical activity and to allow the reader to share it vicariously. The effect of the dialogue cannot be separated from its content. It is not simply an expository vehicle".

³²⁷¹ Also refer to Dodd, 1960: 357; Meeks, 1976: 59; MacRae, 1993: 83-96; Wead, 1970: 47-68; Muecke, 1969 and 1970; Booth, 1974.

reader (1:19-2:12; 2:13-22; 3:1-21; 4:43-54; 6:1-71; 7:1-8:59; 11:55-12:50; cf. Tovey, 2003: 37). As the interlocutors within the story are divided, i.e., as believing and unbelieving, the who choose to follow Jesus are highly regarded over against the readers who choose to remain in darkness.³²⁷² In the communication between narrator and reader,³²⁷³ a continuous dialogic place as the story develops from one step to the other (cf. Van Dijk, 1994/1995: 107-24; 1979: 3-43).³²⁷⁴ The episodic structure of the BS helps the reader to understand the progressively.³²⁷⁵ In the text, the narrator communicates the transfer of role from John the Baptist to Jesus (cf. Witherington, 1992: 390), the messianic role and identity of Jesus (cf. Hurtado, 1988: 114-17), the fulfillment of the promises laid down in the OT (cf. Evans, 1992: 587), the requirement of faith to follow the protagonist (cf. France, 1992: 224-5), and the experience of eternal life (cf. Lategani, 2009: 482; Johnson, 1992: 469-71).³²⁷⁶ The reader is informed of the 'order' through the narrative pattern that is ushered through Jesus (2:1-4:54),³²⁷⁷ through the process of becoming a witness/proclaimer/harvester for the saviour (4:1-42), and the necessity to have knowledge about him (5:1-47; see Table 138).

The narrator progressively shows how the innocent redeemer is under trial (cf. Lincoln, 1997).³²⁷⁸ A dualistic contrast between 'belief' and 'unbelief' and 'from above' and 'from below' lies underneath the narratorial framework (cf. *Crito* [Cooper, 1977: 37-48]; Neyrey, 1991: 156-7).³²⁷⁹ The reader develops (and poses) questions one after another on the basis of

³²⁷² In Johannine dialogues, the leader of the dialogue [i.e., Jesus] has his knowledge 'from above'. While he has knowledge and ideology, only a certain group of people accepts it. This is different from the Ciceronian dialogue. Schaeffer (1988: 389) says that, "The leader of the Ciceronian dialogue already possesses a body of knowledge and expounds in response to the questions of his interlocutors. This exposition is logical rather than dramatic. Interlocutors accept their teacher's views because of their logical and persuasive force".

³²⁷³ Eco (1979: 5; cf. Tovey, 1997: 69-115) says that, "The very existence of texts that can not only be interpreted but also cooperatively generated by the addressee (the 'original' text constituting a flexible type of many tokens can be legitimately realised) posits the problem of a rather peculiar strategy of communication upon a flexible system of signification".

³²⁷⁴ For more details about the rhetorical axis of communication, refer to Lategani, 2009: 464; Hernadi, 1972: 107-11.

³²⁷⁵ Bal (1985/1997: 5) says that, "An *event* is the transition from one state to another state. *Actors* are those who perform actions".

³²⁷⁶ Eco (1979: 7) says that, "To organise a text, its author has to rely upon a series of codes that assign values to the expressions he uses. To make his text communicative, the author has to assume that the ensemble of codes he relies upon is the same as that shared by his possible reader. The author has thus to foresee a model of the reader [he calls her/him, Model Reader] supposedly able to deal interpretatively with the expressions in the text as the author deals generatively with them".

³²⁷⁷ Through the introduction of themes such as 'new wine', 'new temple', 'new birth', 'new life', and 'prophetic bread' and 'new light'.

³²⁷⁸ Stibbe (1994: 24) states that, "In the final section of Part 1 of the gospel (chaps. 1 to 12), Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead (11:1-44), a miracle which finally seals his fate with the Jewish authorities (11:45-53). Jesus withdraws for a while, much to the consternation of those who are looking for him (11:54-56). Jesus then returns to Bethany, and is anointed (12:1-11) prior to his entry into Jerusalem on a donkey (12:12-19). The section concludes with several speeches by Jesus and a summary by the narrator (12:20-36, 37-43, 44-50)".

³²⁷⁹ Ellis (1984: 8; cf. Funk, 1988: 4; Charlesworth, 1968-1969: 389-418) says that, "Storytellers and dramatists limit dialogue to two persons at any one time. Others on stage are either provided with exit cues or reduced to bystanders. This is what is meant by the rule of two, and John uses it regularly".

movements, acts, and utterances of the characters (cf. Harrop, 1992: 10-6; Bal, 1985/1997: 5).³²⁸⁰ The narrator, in return, uses the narrative elements to respond back to the reader (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24).³²⁸¹ The central theme of the text, the identity of Jesus as the agent of God who comes to introduce himself as the *light-logos-life* (i.e., *licht-liebe-leben*; cf. Voigt, 1991), is convincingly explained to the reader through the medium of dialogue (cf. Koester, 1990b: 665-80; Thiselton, 1992: 1-10). The dialogue informs the reader that Jesus is the Saviour of the world and the light that shines in the darkness. The above analysis helps us to understand the dynamic interaction of the 'content', 'form', and 'function' within the dialogue text (cf. Hellholm, 1986: 13-54; Aune, 1986: 65-91).³²⁸² The plot structure of the entire BS informs us that the narrator arranges the story in slot and episodic fashion in order to sustain dramatic features and to develop suspense and surprise in the reader (cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 307-17; Culpeper, 1998: 63).³²⁸³ The dialogue as a peculiar genre is explored in the story of John by means of the available rhetorical devices of that time (cf. Carter, 2008: 123-9; Neyrey, 2009: 3-84).³²⁸⁴ While the form of the genre sets a framework for the content, the form and content together help the genre function in relation to the reader (cf. Hellholm, 1986: 13-54; Aune, 1986: 65-91).³²⁸⁵ Here, the semiotic components, i.e., semantics, syntactics, and pragmatics, come together to expose the nature and function of the dialogue to the maximum (cf. Chandler, 2002: 196; Leavitt, 2005: 207-30). Eco (1979: 3) rightly says that, "An open text is a paramount instance of a syntactic-semantico-pragmatic device whose foreseen interpretation is a part of its generative process". What Eco says here is substantiated through the analysis of John's dialogue at the *micro*-, *meso*-, and *macro*-levels.³²⁸⁶

The narrator of the BS shows interest in developing dialogue as a dynamic literary genre. S/he employs it as a major literary device in order to foreground the characters, especially Jesus the protagonist of the story (cf. Segovia, 2007: 163-5). The dialogue plays a significant role in revealing both the internal and external struggles of the protagonist, the antagonistic tendencies of

³²⁸⁰ In the language of Eco (1979: 7), the "text creates the competence of its Model Reader".

³²⁸¹ Chatman (1978: 265) states that, "The success of any argument depends on its persuasiveness to an audience, which judges it, appropriately, on its coherence, the power of its explanatory capacity, whether it provides a sufficient diversity of examples to test itself, whether it readily provokes discussion of its methods, conclusions, analyses, and, in particular, whether it anticipates and invites counterargument".

³²⁸² For more details about 'content', 'form', and 'function', refer to Greimas and Courtés, 1979; Bal, 1985/1997: 3-15; Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 57-8, 121-2, 124-7.

³²⁸³ Ellis (1984: 6; cf. Wenham, 1998: 102-28) states that, "Few things are more helpful for readers of John's Gospel than an appreciation of his literary techniques. These are for the most part the techniques of a dramatist. They include the technique of using stories to set up scenes; the use of discourses, dialogues and monologues to expound Jesus' teaching; the use of misunderstanding and double-meaning words to emphasise important elements of Jesus' teaching; and the use of such other techniques as the rule of two, explanatory comments, irony, foreshadowing, inclusion, and the chiasmic arrangement of parts, sequences, and sections of the gospel".

³²⁸⁴ Dodd (1963: 319; cf. Majercik, 1992: 2: 185-6; Stibbe, 1994: 54-72) attempts to see the Johannine dialogues in connection with other philosophical and religious dialogues, especially of Plato, Cicero, Plutarch, and Lucian of Samosata.

³²⁸⁵ For more details about semantics, syntactics, and pragmatics, refer to Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 272-7, 328-34, and 240-1.

³²⁸⁶ Read more details in Part II and the previous paragraphs of the macro-analysis. The above analysis at the micro-, meso-, and macro-levels provides us a clear view of the nature and function of the dialogues in the BS.

the Jews, and the perplexed nature of the disciples.³²⁸⁷ The narrator's capability to include dialogue as a major literary device, i.e., distinct from/in relation to the narratives, is one striking phenomena of John (cf. Neyrey, 2009: 3-354).³²⁸⁸ The narrative, i.e., at the macro-level, is used as an overarching framework that incorporates dialogue as a major component.³²⁸⁹ While dialogue helps to interpret the narrative, the narrative, i.e., in the form of pure, formulaic, explanatory narratives, aids the dialogue significantly (cf. Brodie, 1993: 129-256; Resseguie, 2012: 21-2). The narrative sections, through metaphors, asides, signs, and other means, serve as a hermeneutical stimulus to the reader (cf. Parsenios, 2010: 1-47).³²⁹⁰ The aspect of dependence of the narrative and dialogue sections prompts the reader to interpret the BS as a dialogue (cf. Plastaras, 1972: 9-16).³²⁹¹ In the process, an interpreter may find difficulty in affirming the independence of dialogue as a genre (cf. Smith, 1999: 21-45; Carter, 2006: 3-20). But, as dialogue functions as a major and unique genre in the first half of the gospel, s/he has to see how it develops independent from/dependent to the narrative sections. From the overall analysis, it is clear that dialogue as a literary genre functions dynamically within the narrative framework of the Gospel of John. All these inform a paradigmatic reader significant lesson concerning the dialogue (cf. Resseguie, 2001: 23-6).

1.7. Johannine Dialogue and the Community Aspects

The Johannine community aspects are dynamically expressed through the narratives and speeches/dialogues of Jesus (cf. Falk, 1971: 42-50; Nichols, 1971: 130-41).³²⁹³ The anti-Jewish centered and dualistic pattern of the BS provides insights about the 'hate' language of the Johannine community over against Jesus the protagonist and his speeches and mission initiatives.³²⁹⁴ Their hate

³²⁸⁷ Plastaras (1972: 6) says that, "Approximately half of the Fourth Gospel is taken up by discourses of Jesus which have no parallel in the synoptic gospels. The Johannine Jesus does not sound like the Jesus who speaks in the synoptic tradition; the style and the vocabulary are different".

³²⁸⁸ Smith (1999: 23) says that, "The Jesus of John sounds less like the Jesus of the synoptic tradition than the author(s) of these letters [i.e., Johannine Epistles]. The Greek of this Gospel has sometimes been described as Semitising, that is, similar to a Semitic language, especially Hebrew, the language of scripture, or Aramaic, the language of Jesus".

³²⁸⁹ Plastaras (1972: 7) states that, "The Johannine discourses are *not* the free composition of an inspired prophet. A careful comparison of these discourses with the sayings of Jesus in the synoptic tradition reveals that the germinal ideas developed in the discourses are almost always firmly linked to words which Jesus uttered in his public ministry".

³²⁹⁰ For more details about Johannine narrative art, structure, and interpretation, refer to Brant, 2011: 12-20.

³²⁹¹ Brant (2011: 10) says that, "Dialogues and debates are the action of the Gospel. The form of the Synoptic Gospels is suited to paraenesis, practical ethical teachings informed by Jesus' proclamation of the reign of heaven. The Gospel of John is suited to Jesus' proclamations about his identity as the Son of God".

³²⁹² Brant (2011: 12-3) says that, "Whatever genre category we impose on our reading of the Gospel of John is helpful to recognise that ancient writers did not think of invention of events or details or speeches as a distortion of truth but rather as conveying the truth".

³²⁹³ Mattill (1977: 295; cf. Culpepper, 1975; Kysar, 1977: 357) suggests that a critical study of the traditions and of theological and ecclesiastical developments within the Johannine communities is necessary.

³²⁹⁴ According to Van der Watt (2005: 128), "The Soteriology of this Gospel [John] is not formulated in an historical manner. It is formulated to address the specific conflict the Johannine community was experiencing with the disciples of Moses". This conflict is conspicuous throughout the dialogues in the gospel.

is explicit through their activity of *naming* him a 'deceiver' (7:12), 'demonic' (7:20; 8:48, 52; 10:20-21), 'Samaritan' (8:48), and 'Son of Joseph' (6:42; cf. Motyer, 1997: 122-210).³²⁹⁵ Other aspects of 'hate' language such as *diminution* and *reduction* are also used by them (6:42, 52).³²⁹⁶ The narrator's memory of the actual events concerning Jesus is reproduced in the light of the ongoing struggles of the community (cf. Thatcher, 2007: 487-505; cf. Meeks, 1972: 44-72).³²⁹⁷ Martyn (1968/1979: 24-151; cf. Lincoln, 2000: 17-21; Wright, 2009: 1-98) maintains that the Gospel of John is made up of two stories, namely, the story of Jesus and the story of the Johannine congregation who selected events from the life of Jesus to apply to their own situation, thus interweaving their own situation with the story of Jesus (cf. Tovey, 2007: 148).³²⁹⁸ This resulted in a *two level story/drama* (cf. Van der Watt, 2012: 3; Martyn, 1968/1979: 24-151).³²⁹⁹ Van der Watt (2012: 3-4) builds upon Martyn's position and argues in favour of a *third level*.³³⁰⁰ He (2012: 3; cf. Barrett, 1982: 1-18) says that, "There is a (divine) story behind the (earthly) story, which also serves as interpretative frame for the earthly story of Jesus. This transcendental story has a plot and characters of its own. The Son was with the loving Father, even before creation. The Father showed him everything, given him all the power and sent him into the world to bring eternal life,

³²⁹⁵ Roy (2002: 25-42) explains four language structures: naming, diminutives, reduction, and metaphors. *Naming* generally indicates labelling other people out of hatred. The central idea is that "a name, a lack of name, a name enforced by opponents, and a name embraced by insiders can have an impact on our perceptions of each other and whether we tolerate, or hate, each other". Twelftree (1992: 171; cf. Justin, *Apol.* 26.1-5; Origen, *Contra Cels.* 6.11) states that, "In John's Gospel Jesus faces the less serious charge of being possessed by a demon (7:20). Nevertheless, for Jesus to be possessed meant that he was thought to be mad (10:20-21) and a Samaritan (8:48-49, 52), in that he was putting forth heretical or unacceptable and unbelievable opinions".

³²⁹⁶ *Diminutives* allow people "to make another person, thing [. . .], smaller and younger than it actually is" (cf. Roy, 2002: 32). *Reduction* helps people to reduce others to one part of their personality, and thus one can make others as objects and thus dehumanise them. *Metaphors* allow people to name or call others metaphorically (e.g., dog, pig; cf. Roy, 2002: 26, 32). The opponents of Jesus attempt to reduce/diminish him by saying that "whose father and mother we know" (6:42), "this man" (6:52), "how does this man have such learning" (7:15), "we know where this man is from" (7:27), "your testimony is not valid" (8:13), "Are you greater than our father Abraham?" (8:53), and "you are not yet fifty years old" (8:57).

³²⁹⁷ Kysar (2005: 76; cf. Martyn, 1968/1979: 24-151; Bauckham, 2001: 101-11) says that, "Currently the Johannine community still remains a central theme in studies of John. However, the reconstruction of the Johannine community is based on both historical and interpretative methods now under siege and being dismantled piece by piece".

³²⁹⁸ Martyn's main thrust is on the writing of the gospel as a two-level drama, reflected both in the period of Jesus' ministry and the conflict between the Johannine community and the synagogue (cf. Martyn, 1968; Culpepper, 1975: 309). Also refer to Thompson, 2005: 21-42; Bauckham, 2001: 101-11; O'Grady, 1999.

³²⁹⁹ Martyn (1968/1979: 37; cf. Brown, 1979; Rensberger, 1988: 107-32; Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Ringe, 1999: 10-28; Lindars, 2000: 68-70; Bauckham, 2001: 101-11; Culpepper, 1975: 261-88) says that, "Presented as a formal drama, and allowed to mount its actors, so to speak, on a two-level stage so that each is actually a pair of actors playing two parts simultaneously, John 9 impresses upon us its immediacy in such a way as strongly to suggest that some of its elements reflect actual experiences of the Johannine community". Hågerland (2003: 309-22) argues against this position, regarding it as improbable.

³³⁰⁰ Visotzky (2005: 104) says that, "J. Louis Martyn and Raymond Brown were correct; there is a two-level drama in John: that of Jesus and that of the Johannine community. Yet it is sensitivity to levels three and four—the long history of (mis)interpretation of the Fourth Gospel and our own current biases—that allows us to fully understand those earlier levels of drama and suggest new ways for understanding their historic setting". While Visotzky (2005: 92-3; cf. Martyn, 1968; Brown, 1979) suggests a *third* and *fourth* level drama, he overlooked this overarching level of drama that was suggested by Van der Watt (also see 2007: 37-44). Some of the aspects suggested by Visotzky in the third and fourth level are already discussed at the narrator and reader dialogue.

which he did".³³⁰¹ Jesus' verbal interactions with and explicit/implicit references about the world reveal this broader spectrum of the Johannine drama (1:51; 2:16; 3:3-8, 11-21; 4:7-24; 6:25-59; 8:12-59; 10:1-18; 12:27-32, 44-50; cf. Stibbe, 2006: 170-93; Tolmie, 1975).³³⁰² Van der Watt's observation makes much sense in the process of interpreting the drama of John. The narrative framework informs the reader that Jesus is in constant touch with the Father.³³⁰³ This interaction, between the Father and the Son, lies at the root of all other dialogues within the BS (cf. Hurtado, 1992: 274-6; Bassler, 1992: 2: 1049-55).³³⁰⁴

The violent actions of Jesus' interlocutors (cf. Lindars, 2000: 37-8)³³⁰⁵ are beyond the parameters of the dialogue (cf. Martyn, 1968/1979: 24-151; Brodie, 1993). Jesus uses his language in a "from above" perspective.³³⁰⁶ His speeches and actions emerged not out of 'hate' but out of 'love' toward his interlocutors.³³⁰⁷ The Johannine community as a sectarian group was at the initiative of its formation (cf. Conway, 2002: 479-95; cf. Meeks, 1972: 44-72).³³⁰⁸ The antagonistic and exclusive attitudes of the Jews toward those who do not hold on to their religious ideology are obvious through the ongoing vocal exchanges within the BS.³³⁰⁹ This is vivid through their "attempting to kill Jesus" on several occasions (5:18; 7:19-20, 25; 11:45-53), "driving" him out of the synagogue (9:34b; cf. Lindars, 2000: 68-70), and "plotting to kill Lazarus" (11:53; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 210-1). The theme of eternal life was introduced in a context in which

³³⁰¹ Van der Watt (2012: 4; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 156-7; Thompson, 1988: 13-31; Vellanicke, 1977: 90-225; Moloney, 2003: 18-22) further says that, "What happens to Jesus, the disciples, or the Jewish opponents can be understood in the light of this transcendental, divine (meta)-narrative, the story behind the story. This is the 'above' that John calls it – 8:23) that unfolds the 'below'. To a large extent the events in both the life of Jesus and the Johannine group are just expressions of the dynamics of this transcendental divine narrative".

³³⁰² Also refer to Meyer, 2005: 255-73.

³³⁰³ Bennis's (2009) work on Johannine characters does not adequately treat the aspect of God's (along with Jesus') character within the story.

³³⁰⁴ Culpepper (1983: 108) says that, "Jesus' dialogue gives the impression that he is always conscious of his dependence on the Father".

³³⁰⁵ I.e., 'complaining about him' (6:41; 7:12), 'picking up the stones to throw at him' (8:59; 10:31; 11:8), 'attempting to kill him' (7:30, 32, 44-45; 10:39; 11:57), and 'attempting to kill him' (5:18; 7:19-20, 25; 11:45-53).

³³⁰⁶ Lindars (2000: 89; cf. Culpepper, 1983; Abbott, 1905) says that, "The main discourses which follow in the Gospel of John are concerned with Jesus' qualifications for his function as the agent of God's final act of redemption, and the way in which he performs it".

³³⁰⁷ The aspect of language in John is important to outline the point of view of the interlocutors in the dialogue already told that language and thinking/understanding are inseparable. But Gadamer goes further to articulate that language is a repository of a culture. Cf. Gadamer, 2007: 90-2; Lindars, Edwards, and Court, 2000: 17-18; Neyrey, 2007; Culpepper, 1983; Stibbe, 1993.

³³⁰⁸ The understanding of the community as a school has important consequences as it enables the comprehension of the gospel as a literary preservation of a tradition in history (cf. Culpepper, 1975; Kysar, 1977: 355-66; Lindars, 1973-4; Thompson, 1996: 21-42).

³³⁰⁹ Jesus' speech, in a context in which majority-and-minority bifurcation is existent, to promote light and to discard darkness and discrimination is obvious to the reader (cf. Fitzmyer, 2005: 117-118; Neyrey, 2005: 158-67). Van der Watt (2005: 128) states that, "The Jewish opponents claimed that God was with them through their relation with the Law, temple, and other cultic activities, their relationship with Moses, or the patriarchs through Abraham. The disciples of Jesus claimed that God was with them, based on the revelation of Jesus substantiated by his words and deeds and was witnessed to by Scripture. Accepting or rejecting this revelation meant experiencing salvation or not".

community's life was at risk (cf. Ihenacho, 2001: 3-355; Wenham, 2006: 8-10).³³¹⁰ The 'revelatory dualism' of the BS is conspicuous as the identities of both the protagonist and the antagonists are brought to the notice of the reader (cf. O'Day, 1986b: 1-2; Kysar, 1975: 131-6, 215-21).³³¹¹ The usage of elusiveness is a narrative pattern employed within the text in order to reveal the protagonist rhetorically and efficaciously (cf. Martyn, 1979: 93-102; Stibbe, 1991: 19-38).³³¹² The forensic aspects of the BS help the reader understand the role of Jesus as an innocent sufferer (cf. Loader, 1997; Moo, 1992: 460-1). This tendency of revelation is at the kernel of the dialogues in the BS.³³¹³

The Johannine narrator describes the divisive nature of the society by placing Jesus as the hero of justice over against the injustice of his counterparts (cf. Conway, 2002: 479-95; cf. Meeks, 1972: 44-72).³³¹⁴ The presentation of Jesus as the Messiah (cf. Hurtado, 1992: 114-7), the saviour of the world (cf. Marshall, 1992: 719-24),³³¹⁵ the Lamb of God (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 52; Marshall, 1992: 432-4), and the eschatological judge³³¹⁶ through the means of dialogical duel and rhetoric means really helps the narrator to include the feelings of the Johannine community (cf. Garver, 1994: 52-103; Tovey, 2007: 148-59). This further enables the reader to understand the overall story from within the life situation of the excluded community (cf. Conway, 2002: 479-95; Thatcher, 2007: 487-505).³³¹⁷ The narrator's role as an interpreter of the story through the means of dialogue works primarily in two ways: *first*, it promises the believing to be comforted in the context of alienation and marginalisation; and *second*, it challenges the unbelieving to put their trust in Jesus (cf. Meeks, 1972: 44-72; Martyn, 1968/1979: 24-151).³³¹⁸ The narrator uses dialogue as a rhetorical means to delve out the real life situation of the people. The implicit hate language that underlies the Jewish

³³¹⁰ Lindars (2000: 81; cf. Kysar, 2005: 65-81; Culpepper, 1983: 94, 103, 106-7, 109, 113-4, 118, 120, 129-30, 137, 140, 147-8, 156-7, 159-60, 163, 173-4, 181, 189-91, 194, 196-7, 200-1, 235) says that, "The chief clue to the distinctive character of John's concept of salvation is the use of 'life' or 'eternal life' instead of 'kingdom of God' or 'kingdom of heaven'".

³³¹¹ Fitzmyer (2005: 120; cf. Ashton, 1991: 205-32; Charlesworth, 2005: 65-97; Petersen, 1993) says that, "A noteworthy aspect of Johannine theology is the elaborate dualism one encounters in the gospel and epistles. Here one finds seven pairs of opposites: death and life (John 5:24; 6:49-51, 58; 11:25; 1 John 3:14); flesh and spirit (John 3:6; 6:63; 1 John 4:2-3); light and darkness (John 1:5; 3:19; 8:12; 12:35, 46; 1 John 1:5; 2:8-9, 11); truth and lies/error (John 8:44; 1 John 1:6; 2:21, 27; 4:6); above and below (John 3:31; 8:23); earthly and heavenly (John 3:12-13, 31); Jesus/God/Father and this world (John 3:16-17; 13:1; 16:28; 17:14-16, 25; 1 John 2:16-17; 4:4; 5:4, 19)".

³³¹² For more details about the Synagogue-Church dialogue, refer to Kysar, 1975: 149-56; Neyrey, 2007: 11, 15; Stibbe, 1993: 17; Culpepper, 1983: 99-148; O'Grady, 1999.

³³¹³ Neyrey (2007: 9) says that, "God remains 'unknown' by all except Jesus, for 'no one has ever seen God' (1:18; 5:37; 6:46). Jesus speaks the words of God, even if many do not grasp their meaning (3:34). Some who receive Jesus' revelation then disclose it to others (1:35-50). Nevertheless, at all levels, we observe a process of selected disclosure". While Jesus discloses himself and the will of God through dialogues, his interlocutors' folly is also revealed.

³³¹⁴ Culpepper (1983: 112) states that, "John insists on the recognition of Jesus' divinity and his origin from above".

³³¹⁵ Sadananda (2004: 254) says, "In confessing Jesus as cosmic 'I am' — 'Saviour of the world' who fulfills the particular expectation and longings of the universal community, the Saviour-hood of God is affirmed".

³³¹⁶ Travis (1992: 411) says that, "The Fourth Gospel refers in only two places to the final judgment. When in John 12:48 Jesus says people will be judged on the last day by the word which he was spoken, the thought seems to be close to that of Mark 8:38. John 5:26-29 offers the traditional apocalyptic description of a final general resurrection and judgment".

³³¹⁷ For more details, refer to Culpepper, 1975; Matill, 1977: 294-315; Martyn, 1968; Brown, 1979.

³³¹⁸ Also refer to Visotzky, 2005: 91-107; O'Grady, 1999.

feelings and the Johannine community³³¹⁹ aspects is reflected through the dualistic and dialogues of the BS (cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 149-52; Duke, 1985: 139-56).³³²⁰ In short, the dialogues of the BS serve as a significant literary element for the dramatic and narrative flow of the Gospel of John. As Dodd (1960: 383) rightly says, “chaps. 2-12 [for me 1:19-12:50] has shown that they are an organic whole”.³³²¹ In the organisational set-up of the BS, Jesus’ dialogue enables him to reveal his identity and mission to the interlocutors (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 106-12; Carter, 2006: 197-222).

1.8. Contribution of Dialogue to the Johannine Narrative

Finally, it is significant to think about the contribution of dialogue to the narrative section of the BS. A paradigmatic reader can see the way dialogue adds flavour to the narrative framework of the Gospel of John. A tri-dimensional approach to the Johannine dialogue (i.e., *first*, among the characters in Jesus’ story;³³²² *second*, between the Johannine author and the historical readers; and *third*, between the narrator and the ever-present reader)³³²³ displays its extensive possibilities in the process of interpretation.³³²⁴ Our study has already dealt with the role of dialogue in the Johannine narrative. The slot and episode development of the story through the means of both the narrative and dialogues provides a dramatic framework altogether (cf. Brant, 2011: 12-3; Parsenios, 2004: 47).³³²⁵ The incorporation of stylistic features helps the narrator to interlock the reader with the text, and that further makes the interpretative process smooth and rhetorical (cf. Resseguie, 2001: 27-58). While the Synoptic evangelists fill the space with loosely connected pericopes, John provides us ‘cause and effect’ details concerning the dramatic and theological development of the story.

³³¹⁹ While the Jewish community attempt to eradicate the Johannine community, the Johannine community suffers for their existence.

³³²⁰ Meeks (1986: 164; cf. Ashton, 1991: 167; Von Wahlde, 1995: 379-89; O’Grady, 1999) considers the dialogues as reflections of dialectical order between Johannine community and the Jewish community.

³³²¹ Dodd (1960: 383) says that, “A continuous argument runs through them. It does not move along the direct logical process. Its movement is more like that of a musical fugue. A theme is introduced and developed up then a second theme is introduced and the two are interwoven; then a third, and so on. A theme may be dropped later resumed and differently combined, in all manner of harmonious variations”. Dodd (1960: 383) further says, “The works of Christ are all ‘signs’ of His finished work. The ‘signs’ are all true, provided that He who works them is the Son of Man who was exalted and glorified through the cross. In that sense, each several act of Christ within it the whole truth of the Gospel, and should disclose this truth if it is sufficiently pondered and perceived. The conception of the purport of the story of the ministry has determined the structure of the Book of Signs”.

³³²² For more details about the characters’ speech, refer to Resseguie, 2001: 10-5.

³³²³ Resseguie (2001: 15) says, “When the narrator intrudes into the narrative to speak in his own voice he does so from an ideological perspective”.

³³²⁴ In our analysis, we elaborately explored the first and third dimensions. The second dimension is different from the first and third but at the same time strikingly similar to it in different ways.

³³²⁵ Mlakuzhyil (1987: 112-21) refers to the dramatic techniques of John as significant elements in the narrative structure, such as change of scenes, technique of alternating scenes, technique of double-stage action, introduction and development of dramatis personae, the law of stage duality, technique of vanishing characters, technique of seven scenes, technique of diptych-scenes, sequence of action-dialogue-discourse, and dramatic development and pattern.

³³²⁶ While the synoptic gospels exemplify loosely connected and independent pericopes, John includes slot and episode structures. John also shows how episodes are sequentially connected.

story (cf. Plastaras, 1972: 1-16).³³²⁷ In John, the orchestration of the story with the help of slots and episodes is more sequential and progressive (cf. Parsenios, 2010: 10-28).³³²⁸ One of the major contributions of dialogue within the narrative framework is its realistic effects and the exposition of Jesus' identity as the agent of God and the Saviour of the world.³³²⁹ The existence of dialogue as a literary genre (i.e., notified through the analysis of the component parts, such as content, forms, and function) is identified not only as a distinctive literary phenomenon but also as a major narrative element of the gospel (cf. Smith, 1999: 21-3).³³³⁰ Dialogue functions as the major literary means through which the faith-reactions of the interlocutors are introduced to the reader. It helps the reader to understand the development of the genre and its related aspects such as characterisation, plot-structure,³³³¹ and point of view. It also reveals the stylistic aspects and the dramatic intentions of the narrator (cf. Mlakuzhyil, 1987: 112-21; Parsenios, 2010: 1-47). These features help us to understand the creative and persuasive role of dialogue within the narrative master plan of the gospel (cf. Brant, 2011: 11-20).

Johannine dialogue stands out as it functions as the major component of the narrative sections. It helps the narrator to tell the story artfully and to communicate it performatively (cf. Parsenios, 2010: 12; Ellis, 1984: 29-194). The narrator uses various dialogue types to lead the reader toward the kernel of the story (cf. Smith, 1999: 21-3). To lead the reader toward the protagonist of the story the narrator takes active means and measures. Through the narrative techniques the implied reader gradually becomes informed about the protagonist. This persuades the reader to recreate the story according to his/her contextual realities (cf. Resseguie, 2001: 27-58). Literary devices such as double meaning, misunderstanding, irony, symbolism, metaphorical language, dualistic tendencies, and character acts/movements/mannerisms are explored to impress the paradigmatic reader to reinterpret the story to his/her own time and context (cf. Brant, 2011: 11-2).³³³² Toward

³³²⁷ Smith (1999: 21-2) says that, "The first part [chaps. 2-12], the public ministry, is variously called the Book of Signs (cf. Dodd, 1953/1960: 290-1, 297-389), because the account seems to center on Jesus' deeds, or the Revelation of the Glory before the World (cf. Bultmann, 1971: 111-454)".

³³²⁸ For details about the differences between the synoptic and Johannine presentations, refer to Brant, 2011: 9-12.

³³²⁹ Brant (2011: 13) says that, "The style of the Gospel of John has been called dramatic in comparison to that of the synoptic authors. The conflict arises at the beginning of the narrative and develops steadily toward a climax so that the action is always fraught with tension".

³³³⁰ Spencer (1991: 232-3) observes that, "In Aristotle's *Rhetoric*, content or the cognitive message 'can stand on its own right, apart from the form'. In Aristotle's *Poetics*, literary form is an essential part of the work". Spencer (1991: 233) further states that, "In *The Poetics*, Aristotle does not so much claim that form is an essential part of a work as he defines what he thinks are the essential characteristics of each form. Aristotle in both works wants to teach the reader how to compose the best fictional or persuasive piece".

³³³¹ Culpepper (1995: 347-58), following Abrams (1999), identifies four factors that must be considered in any analysis of plot: sequence, causality, unity, and effective power. Resseguie (2001: 169) says that, "Sequence refers to the order and progression of events. Causality describes the relationship between events and why one event is linked to another. Unity relates how the beginning, middle, and end of the plot cohere, and effective power refers to the plot's ability to evoke desired responses in reader".

³³³² Resseguie (2001: 27-59) sees the language of estrangement through the usage of these literary devices. He (2001: 58-59) says that, "Ironies, misunderstandings, and double entendres invert the human propensity to view the world as a patina of the ordinary and thereby to miss the spiritual side of life. The reader who thinks in terms of the quotidian, the ordinary, the material, the earthly is confronted with a new way of thinking that sees the spiritual, the new, the

that end the dialogue of John's Gospel works as a useful instrument. The narrative technique of showing and telling provides interpretative avenues as it inspires the reader to see the contextualisation of the story (cf. Neyrey, 2009; Ellis, 1984: 29-194). The dialogue at the contextual level functions as the key element as it opens up further possibilities of dialogue to the authorial, historical reader and to the narrator and ever-present reader levels (cf. Resseguie, 2001: 23).

2. Concluding Remarks

The study can be concluded on the basis of the overall discussion of the dialogic paradigmatic reader of the BS may find the progress of the story in a rhetorical manner (cf. Fiorenza, 2001: 43-4; Vorster, 2009: 505-78). The narrator's ability to convince the reader through dramatic and dialogic means is one of the peculiar features of the BS. Reinhartz (2001) and Culpepper (1996: 193-207; Duke, 1985) says that, "Like works of fiction, the gospel is a narrative in which it conveys setting, plot, and characters through a highly artful mode of storytelling, including irony, symbolism, and other literary devices". As in the case of Platonic dialogues, almost all the Johannine dialogues take place in a particular setting and with the help of artful means (cf. Press, 2007: 57; Chatman, 1978: 19, 138-45).³³³⁴ How does dialogue as a literary and rhetorical means work within the narratorial framework? This question is answered in this dissertation. The discussion can be recapitulated as follows.

First, our analysis of the Johannine texts which made use of a problem-oriented approach helps us in understanding the literary character of its dialogue (cf. Egger, 1996: 8).³³³⁵ The quality and the performative function of the dialogue are well detailed throughout the study (cf. Baldick, 1990: 164; see the *micro*-, *meso*-, and *macro*-analyses).³³³⁶ The role of the narrator as dialogue partner with the reader is expounded through this analysis (cf. O'Day, 1998; Chatman, 1978: 28-9). The narrator uses several rhetorical devices and literary figures in his speech/thought in order to communicate the story of Jesus persuasively to the reader (cf. Iser, 1998: 145-403; Garver, 1994: 52-103).³³³⁷ Through all these means, the narrator foregrounds

unfamiliar, the defamiliarised. This deforming process turns on its head a 'below' point of view so that it shares the narrator's 'above' point of view".

³³³³ Brant (2011: 19) says that, "The Gospel of John has found an iconic place within the context of contemporary culture and popular culture".

³³³⁴ Press (2007: 57; cf. Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95) states about the Platonic dialogues, "The space and time settings are borrowed from the real world and chosen so as to provide an additional dimension to the dialogue's content. In John too the settings are borrowed from the real world. This tendency of the Johannine dialogues makes them of the original".

³³³⁵ Also see Punch, 2010: 16; Costa, 2012: 16-7.

³³³⁶ Greimas and Courtés (1979: 227) say that, "For semiotics, linguistic performance is first of all inscribed in a particular case in the general set of problems of comprehension and of formulation of human activity. It is an encounter, depicted in innumerable instances and in diverse forms in the discourse which it has to analyse" (2004: 8-10, 53-4, 56, 80, 84, 86, 115, 120, 154, 182).

³³³⁷ Garver (1994: 248; cf. Rorty, 1996: 1-4; Chatman, 1978: 28-9; Funk, 1988: 2-25) says that, "Rhetoric is called the art of arts in that in rhetoric rationality fully dominates the art". Resseguie (2005: 41) says that

role and identity of Jesus, the protagonist of the story (cf. Genette, 1980: 189-94).³³³⁸ This feature of the text is convincingly brought out through the usage of a problem-oriented approach. The use of all the important tools in the field of literary criticism helped us in understanding the dramatic and artistic quality of the text (cf. Windisch, 1993: 25-64; Tan, 1993: 26-47). The use of dialogue as an important means to expose the story of Jesus and also the Johannine life situation is better understood through the application of this multi-faceted approach to the text.

Second, a genre analysis of the Johannine dialogues which into consideration the content, form, and function (cf. Hellholm, 1986: 13-54; Aune, 1986: 65-91)³³³⁹ helps us to understand the semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic aspects (cf. Kermode, 1979: 162; Tuckett, 1987: 68-75).³³⁴⁰ Our study informed us that dialogue is a recognisable and established category which is spread throughout the BS. Baldick (1990: 90; cf. Burridge, 1992: 52) rightly puts it, "A literary genre is a recognisable and established category of written work employing such common conventions"³³⁴¹ as will prevent readers or audiences from mistaking it for another kind".³³⁴² In the BS, a reader can recognise several common conventions of dialogue that form it as a specific literary category (see Part II).³³⁴³ John's narrative develops with a focus on the characters and their verbal exchange. In the dialogues, Jesus' utterances reveal his relationship with the Father (cf. Thompson, 1988: 13-31; Kelly and Moloney, 2003),³³⁴⁴ his own identity in relation to his interlocutors, his expectation about his interlocutors, and the folly of the antagonists (cf. Lindars, 2000: 89-91).³³⁴⁵ The identity of Jesus is also revealed through the convincing statements of his interlocutors (1:19-36, 49; 3:2;

delights while it persuades; it is an integral and indispensable part of every mode of discourse, whether written or spoken, for it is the means by which authors persuade us of their ideological point of view, norms, beliefs, and values".

³³³⁸ This aspect of foregrounding is done in an entirely different way in the gospel. Stibbe (1994: 30; Hamid-Khani, 2000: 33-61) says that, "When it comes to understanding Jesus, the narrator constantly leaves us with logical ellipses or gaps which we, the reader, must try to fill. The one telling the story is therefore an elusive narrator, just as the one about whom the narrator is speaking is an elusive hero. In this respect, the 'teller' and the 'told' compliment one another perfectly".

³³³⁹ Van Aarde (2009: 381) postulates that, "The term *genre* refers to the *generic* characteristics of a specific literary form, which differ from the characteristics of other forms, and which enable us to identify a specific *literary type*". Also refer to Collins, 1986: 1-9; Collins, 1979: 1-19; Davies, 1992: 67-109; Attridge, 2002: 3-21; Tan, 1993: 50-89; Stibbe, 1994: 54-72; Witherington, 1995: 2-4.

³³⁴⁰ Nightingale (1995: 3; cf. Conte, 1991/1994: 132; Burridge, 2007: 23-4; Attridge, 2002: 3-21) says that, "If genres are not merely artistic forms but forms of thought, each of which is adapted to representing and conceptualising some aspects of experience better than others, then an encounter between two genres within a single text is itself a kind of dialogue".

³³⁴¹ I.e., a type, species, or class of composition. For more details about genre, refer to Part I.

³³⁴² Stibbe (1994: 54; cf. Aune, 1987: 13) states that, "By 'genre' is meant 'a group of texts that exhibit a coherent and recurring configuration of literary features involving form (including structure and style), content and function'".

³³⁴³ See more details in the *micro*-, *meso*-, and *macro*-analyses of the BS. Greimas and Courtés (1979: 78) say that, "Reported dialogue often involves a framing. The framing element, whose main function is to signal the speech act as a semiotic act ('he said', 'she replied'), frequently includes information about the mood of the dialogue ('anxiously', 'with an emotion-tinged voice')".

³³⁴⁴ Goldingay (2000: 131; quoted in Green, 2003: 13) says that, "the 'revelation' of God's person is inextricably tied to the events in which God becomes different things, in a way that any person does; it is thus inextricably tied to narrative". Green (2003: 13) continues saying that, "This understanding of God is 'storied'. Its content is embodied, lived. This is the theological inheritance bequeathed to us in Scripture".

³³⁴⁵ In these revelatory descriptions a reader can notice the way dialogue as a genre functions as a distinguishable literary category in relation to other categories.

4:7-26; 7:1-8:59; 11:1-54). On the one hand, it is the revelation of Jesus' identity, and on the other it is the revelation of the identity of the antagonists.³³⁴⁶ This revelation evolves in the text through the contrasting voices and their dialogic development. In Jesus' exchange, the connection between 'speech' (cf. Thatcher, 2001: 263-77) and 'action' is established through the integration of words and 'I AM' sayings (cf. Burke, 1992: 354-6; Ball, 1996).³³⁴⁷ The well-structured nature of the dialogue provides rhetorical punch to the BS as a whole (cf. Windisch, 1993: 25-64; Reardon, 2005: 41).³³⁴⁸ This nature of the dialogue, i.e., its focused content and literary pattern, enables the narrator to communicate his message and convince the reader (cf. Chandler, 2002/2007: 18). The text shows that dialogue functions as a distinguishable and significant literary genre (cf. Hernadi, 1972: 1-9; Keener, 2009: 73-84).³³⁴⁹

Third, though dialogue is a distinguishable literary category, its interaction with the narrative is strong within the BS (cf. Bal, 1985/1997: 3-15; Chatman, 1978: 173-83).³³⁵⁰ As dialogue is an integral part and parcel of the narrative framework, it does not make full sense apart from the narrative (cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 381-418; Moloney, 2005: 193-213). In most of the cases, dialogue is cryptic if not linked to the narrative expositions (cf. O'Day, 1987: 11-3).³³⁵¹ Similar to narratives themselves are meaningless apart from the dialogue. This mode of interlocking narrative and the dialogue is a conspicuous phenomenon within the text (cf. Lothe, 2000; Moloney, 1998). The reader of the text can configure its fullest meaning only through interactive reading techniques (cf. Hernadi, 1972: 10-53).³³⁵² The Johannine phenomenon of placing the dialogue within the narratorial framework prompts the reader to associate the different component parts in an integrated way (cf. Chatman, 1978: 28-9; Howarth, 2000: 10).

³³⁴⁶ Resseguie (2005: 121) says that, "Characters reveal themselves in their speech (what they say and how they say it), in their actions (what they do), by their clothing (what they wear), in their gestures and posture (how they move themselves). Characters are known by what others say about them. What do the disciples or authorities say about Jesus, for instance? Or what does the narrator say about him?"

³³⁴⁷ For more details about 'signs', 'discourse', and 'homily' sources in John, refer to Lindars, Edwards, and Turner (2000: 51-5).

³³⁴⁸ Carey and Snodgrass (1999: 68) say that genre is "a broad, descriptive literary heading or classification that typifies the style or form of a piece of writing—as in drama, essay, fiction, nonfiction, satire, fable, or novel—and establishes the characteristics—subject, length, meter, rhyme scheme, intent, or effect—that set it apart from other literary works".

³³⁴⁹ Culpepper (2000: 10) says that, "The Gospel of John is clearly a gospel, and is more like the other New Testament gospels than any other writings, including the apocryphal gospels, but it is also noticeably different. It has therefore been called the 'spiritual gospel' and a 'maverick gospel'. It is more abstract in language and theologically overtly theological, and contains more discourse material than the other gospels. Differences in respect to language, imagery, chronology, geography, and theology are all evident upon close examination".

³³⁵⁰ Beasley-Murray (1987: xc-xci) observes that, "It is important to recognise that the structure of signs and symbols in chaps. 2-12 is interlaced with another prime theme of John, namely, the fulfillment of the feasts of the Jewish ministry of Jesus".

³³⁵¹ Baldick (1990: 146) says that, "In a dramatic work, a narrator is a performer who recounts directly to the reader a summary of events preceding or during a scene or act".

³³⁵² As Green (2003: 20; cf. Lategani, 2009: 457-82) suggests, a *determined, atomistic, scientific*, and *interpretation* will show these structural aspects within the text.

³³⁵³ Stibbe (1994: 63) states that, "From a literary-critical perspective, the abiding appeal of the fourth Gospel has something to do with its creative use of generic modes. Put another way, the plot of the gospel has been structured in such a way as to resonate with the archetypes of storytelling".

Witherington (1995: 41) says that, "There are narratives, discourses, and dialogues between 1:19 and 12:50, meant to reveal something about Jesus' ministry".³³⁵⁴ This nature of the text suggests that the reader should be watchful not only of the interlocutors within the story but also of what the narrator suggests, where he guides, and how he makes movements (cf. Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 203). There develops a dialogue between the narrator and the reader (cf. Ricoeur, 1988: 3: 164-73; Warren and Wellek, 1955: 34).³³⁵⁵ This double-layered nature of the dialogue is exposed in an inseparable way through the text (cf. Eco, 1979: 3-40; Tan, 1993: 50-88).³³⁵⁶

Fourth, the *micro-*, *meso-*, and *macro-* level analyses of the dialogue help the reader to understand subject matter from the minute points to the extended levels. At the micro-level, the utterance units of the characters with the help of the narratorial comments build the slot units (cf. Windisch, 1993: 25-64). Within the slot-units, the story develops an interactive structure in the form of dialogues, either explicitly or implicitly.³³⁵⁷ It takes place in association with the movements, interactions, mannerisms, and actions of the characters (cf. Barry, 1970: 51; Elam, 1980).³³⁵⁸ The elements within the slot units³³⁵⁹ help the narrator to build the story coherently at the meso-level (cf. Harrop, 1992: 10-6; Chatman, 1978: 26, 30-1; cf. Part II).³³⁶⁰ At the meso-level, the individual stories (i.e., Nicodemus event, 3:1-21; the event of the Samaritan woman, 4:1-42; and others) get their independent form (cf. Lindars, 2000: 71-3).³³⁶¹ The aesthetic nature of the narrative of the BS is its

³³⁵⁴ Dodd (1960: 389) says that, "It [the BS] constitutes a great argument, in which any substantial alteration of the existing order and sequence would disturb the strong and subtle unity which it presents, and which I take to be characteristic of the creative mind to which we owe the composition of the Fourth Gospel". For more details about the probable saying tradition behind the FG, refer to Lindars, 1992: 113-29.

³³⁵⁵ Funk (1988: 36) says that, "In reading the text, the reader realises the text: he or she responds to various markers and signals in the text, discovers patterns, supplies what is felt to be missing, constructs plot, character, and the like, and relates the world of the text to other known or imagined worlds".

³³⁵⁶ Bal (1985/1997: 8-9; cf. Chatman, 1978: 161-6) observes that, "It is possible to examine *what* is said in a text, and to classify it as narrative, descriptive, or argumentative. Such an analysis often helps to assess the ideological or aesthetic thrust of a narrative. The one question that still remains is *how* all of this is narrated. There is often a noticeable difference between the narrator's style and that of the actors".

³³⁵⁷ For more information about the micro- and meso- development of the dialogue, refer to Part II.

³³⁵⁸ The gospel progresses in the form of a drama. Kelly and Moloney (2003) say that, "To appreciate more fully the manner in which John introduces his readers into the experience of God we must appreciate its dramatic quality. This would mean attending to the gospel especially as a *play*, as a divinely authored drama".

³³⁵⁹ I.e., utterances, interactions, movements, mannerisms, and actions of the characters. For more information about the dramatic movements and actions in John, refer to Brant, 2004: 85-90.

³³⁶⁰ Lindars (2000: 58) says that, "the discourses are steadily built up to a climax. The subject is announced, often using a saying from the tradition If the dialogue form is used, the speaker may misunderstand Jesus, as in the case of Nicodemus in 3:1-10. This gives the cue for Jesus to redefine his statement, so as to take the subject to a deeper level. Another technique, which often appears in monologues, is for the evangelist or Jesus to make a sweeping statement, and then to limit its application by making a further statement which modifies it, e.g., 1:11-12; 8:15-16". The idea of cohesion was first developed in detail by Roman Jakobson, one of the leading linguists of the twentieth century and a pioneer in the application of linguistics to literature. In 1960 Jakobson characterised, with reference to poetry, a notion basic to the analysis of literary texts: that they have cohesion or internal patterning and repetition far exceeding that of most non-literary texts (cf. Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 21-4; Jakobson, 1960).

³³⁶¹ Culpepper (1983: 98) states that, "The effect of this narrative structure, with its prologue followed by episodic repetition of the conflict between belief and unbelief, is to enclose the reader in the company of faith. The gospel's plot, therefore, is controlled by thematic development and a strategy for wooing readers to accept its interpretation of Jesus".

existence as a macro-dialogue that is comprised of several meso-dialogues (i.e., 1:19-2:12; 3:1-21, 25-30; 4:1-42; 5:1-47; and others).³³⁶² Dodd (1960: 389; cf. Kelly and Moloney 9-14) states that, "The Book of Signs exhibits a design and structure which respond sensitively to the development of the highly original ideas of the author".³³⁶³ This dynamism of the meso-, and macro-development of the dialogue enables the reader to be interactive with the text (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 79-98; Vorster, 2009: 505-74).³³⁶⁴ Thus, the slot, episodic,³³⁶⁵ macro-structure of the BS develops in a rhythmical way (see Part II; cf. O'Day, 1987: 11-31; 1993: 11-2).³³⁶⁶

Fifth, the characterisation of the story is expressed primarily through dialogues (cf. Aristotle 6.24; Culpepper, 1983: 101-48).³³⁶⁷ The dualistic framework of the narrative divides the characters either to the side of light or to the side of darkness (cf. Barton, 2008: 7; Beirne, 2003). Contrasting and conflictive aspects like 'from above' and 'from below', 'believing' and 'unbelieving', and 'eternal life' and 'death'³³⁶⁹ develop as central themes throughout the discourse (cf. Nicholson, 1980: 21; Genette, 1980: 182-5).³³⁷⁰ Jesus the protagonist, through his involvement, inspires his interlocutors (i.e., Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, the Jews, the man, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, and others) for face-to-face communication (cf. Vorster 1994/1995: 107-24; Van Aarde, 2009: 404-6).³³⁷¹ His revelatory 'I AM' sayings coupled with sign performances and dynamic movements attract his interlocutors toward the 'communion'.

³³⁶² Stibbe (1993: 11) states that, "What the evangelist created was almost certainly an artfully constructed narrative. Something of this architectural dexterity is still visible in many of the episodes".

³³⁶³ In the *Phaedrus* (264c) Plato says that every discourse should be like a living body in which the parts (limbs) (cf. Kennedy, 1984: 23).

³³⁶⁴ For more details about the aspects of genre, refer to Kermode, 1979: 162; Tuckett, 1987: 69-75.

³³⁶⁵ Baldick (1990: 72; cf. Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 57-8) defines 'episodic' as "constructed as a narrative succession of loosely connected incidents rather than by an integrated plot".

³³⁶⁶ Dodd (1960: 384) says that, "The episodes are constructed upon a common pattern, subject to endless variation. Each of them tends to move from narrative, through dialogue, to monologue, or at least to a form of dialogue. Comparatively long speeches are allotted to the chief Speaker. Most of them have an epilogue or appendix in which part recapitulates leading ideas of the episode, and in part alludes to ideas contained in other episodes, earlier in such a way as to form a series of links".

³³⁶⁷ Van der Watt (2012: 8; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 32-3, 34; Barus, 2006: 128-34; Bennema, 2009: 208) states that, "Presentation of characters in chap. 8 is varied and vivid. This is done in several ways, for instance through dissonance, dualistic descriptions or contrasts, as well as examples. The people Jesus engages in dialogue with are Pharisees in the first section (8:12-30) and 'believers' in the second section (8:31-59). The dialogue with the Pharisees deals directly with their ethical behavior and how it is to be identified, while the dialogue with the believers deals with witness and understanding (or not understanding) of the witness".

³³⁶⁸ For more details about characterisation, refer to Hochman, 1985; Docherty, 1983; Chatman, 1978.

³³⁶⁹ Anderson (1996: 196, 210-11; cf. Brant, 2004: 202) pursues the similarity between Johannine and Synoptic dialogues but concludes that the dialogic response evoked by the Fourth Gospel is to choose between two paths: one leading to death and the other leading to eternal life.

³³⁷⁰ Van der Watt (2012: 8; cf. Lincoln, 2000: 20; Neyrey, 2007: 5-9; Barrett, 1982: 98-115; O'Brien, 2000: 89-91; Brant, 2004: 3-4, 22-3, 47-50, 103-4, 122-3, 227-9) says that, "The characterisation [of Jesus] is stylistically and semantically done in strong *dualistic fashion*".

³³⁷¹ Culpepper (1983: 106; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 5-31) says that, "Apart from the Father and Jesus, whose character dominates the gospel, the other characters fall into a limited number of groups: the disciples; 'the Jews', the Pharisees and those aligned with them; and the crowd and those minor characters caught between Jesus and those who oppose him".

light' (cf. Harrop, 1992: 10-6; Stibbe, 1993: 16-7).³³⁷² But those who are hesitant to accept the call of Jesus are considered as part of the 'community of darkness' (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 121-65; Petersen, 1993: 23-79).³³⁷³ Dialogue with Jesus is decisive as it either leads the interlocutor to 'accept' (i.e., Samaritan woman and the blind man) or to 'reject' him (i.e., Jesus' brothers and the Jews; cf. Leidig, 1979; Van der Watt, 2007: 51-65). This dualistic contrast is highly emphasised in the dialogic interactions between Jesus and the other characters (cf. Barrett, 1982: 98-115; Powell, 1990: 51-68).³³⁷⁴ While Jesus reveals his identity, glory, and authority through his dialogue, his interlocutors either associate with him through their 'belief' or reject the revealer and his revelation (cf. Skinner, 2013; Tolmie, 1999: 39-62).³³⁷⁵ This set-up of the dialogue is helpful in understanding the identity of Jesus' interlocutors in relation to him.³³⁷⁶ The narrator uses narrative techniques like *showing* and *telling*, i.e., the characters show (*mimesis*)³³⁷⁷ and the narrator tells (*diegesis*),³³⁷⁸ in order to present the 'dialogue' and 'narrative' interactively (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 126-30; Genette, 1980: 163-4). In that process, the narrator uses dialogue as a central component to expose the characterisation of the story.³³⁷⁹

³³⁷² Neyrey (2007: 5; cf. Collins, 1976: 26-46, 118-32; Koester, 1995: 36-8; Petersen, 1993) says that, "They [Johannine characters] represent in a homiletic context traits either praiseworthy or blameworthy within the Johannine group".

³³⁷³ Resseguie (2005: 122-3; cf. Chatman, 1978: 107-145) says that, "Many biblical characters are either at the margins of society or at the centers of power and influence, either rising to prominence or falling to oblivion. Because we learn from the success and failure of others, the study of character and characterisation can be a fascinating part of narrative analysis. The enjoyment of a narrative lies in the discovery of complex, developing characters that help define or redefine our own quests".

³³⁷⁴ Resseguie (2005: 147-8) says that, "The man born blind is one of the most memorable minor characters of the New Testament. He routs the religious authorities by dissembling their inflated claims and models the triumph of light over darkness. He is known by the setting, by his actions, and by what he says. As the narrative progresses, he develops into an engaging character, which parallels his understanding of Jesus".

³³⁷⁵ Culpepper (1983: 103; cf. Chatman, 1978: 107-45) says that, "In John, the character of Jesus is static; it does not change. He only emerges more clearly as what he is from the beginning. Some of the minor characters, the Samaritan woman and the blind man in particular, undergo a significant change. To some extent, therefore, the Gospel of John draws from both Greek and Hebrew models of character development, but most of its characters appear to represent particular ethical types".

³³⁷⁶ Chatman (1978: 48) says that, "Revelatory plots tend to be strongly character-oriented, concerned with the infinite detailing of existents, as events are reduced to a relatively minor, illustrative role".

³³⁷⁷ In the form of 'indirect presentation'. Cf. Brant, 2004: 8, 12-5, 16, 69, 95-115, 192, 200-1.

³³⁷⁸ In the form of 'direct presentation'. Powell (1990: 52) says that, "The technique of *telling* employs the voice of a reliable narrator to speak directly to the reader". He (1990: 52) further says that, "The technique of *showing* is less precise than that of *telling* but it is usually more interesting". Chatman (1978: 32) says that, "Dialogue, of course, is the preeminent enactment. The contrast between narration proper and enactment is demonstrated in the two basic forms for depicting a character's speech—indirect versus direct: 'John said that he was tired' versus "'I'm tired' [said John]. The first necessarily entails a person telling what John said, while the second simply has John saying something—in the audience's presence, so to speak".

³³⁷⁹ Brant (2004: 203; cf. De Jong, 1991: 5-96) says that, "Like the Euripidean messenger, the Johannine narrator begins and ends the gospel with explicit self-reference and then refrains from referring to himself for the bulk of his narration, allowing the audience to receive the story as though they were witness to its unfolding action; however, by reporting characters' thoughts and motives, the narrator provides more than an objective witness would know".

Sixth, the point of view³³⁸⁰ of the narrator is introduced to the reader through the interlocking of the dialogue and the narrative (cf. Tovey, 1997: 15-68; Stibbe, 1993: 72, 78-84-5).³³⁸¹ The narrator uses the aspects of 'showing' and 'telling' to integrate the two stories (i.e., the story of Jesus and the story of the Johannine community) as a single whole (cf. Moloney, 2005: 212-3; Martyn, 1968).³³⁸² The protagonist of the story, with the help of his discip- asides, speaks from the 'above' and 'eternal' perspective (3:15-16; 5:24, 40; 6:40, 47-50; 10:10; cf. Powell, 1990: 23-4; Tolmie, 1999: 29-38).³³⁸³ He invites his interlocutors to believe in him and in his father and thus to be partakers of the experience of eternal life (cf. Van der Watt, 2011: 109-36).³³⁸⁴ Jesus' interactions with people from various walks of life, i.e., men and women, male and female,³³⁸⁵ Jewish and non-Jewish,³³⁸⁶ and upper and lower classes,³³⁸⁷ show his inclusive attitude.³³⁸⁸ Jesus' character is ethically and morally stable and persuasive to the reader (cf. Lindars, 1971: 42-50; Nichols, 1971: 130-41).³³⁸⁹ On the contrary, his interlocutors speak from the human perspective and their ideology is in constant conflict with the ideology of Jesus (cf. Lindars, 1971: 35). There develops a dualistic contrast between the two points of view of the characters.

³³⁸⁰ Van Aarde (2009: 389; cf. Baldick, 1990: 173; Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 117-8; Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 121; Berlin, 1982: 71-113) says that, "In narratology the technical term *point of view* is used when referring to the strategy of telling the story and communicating the message. The term 'point of view' refers *firstly* to the angle from which the narrator observes the narrated world. From this angle the world is presented to the implied/idealized reader. *Secondly*, it refers to the ideological perspective from which the narrator evaluates the narrated world. The narrator 'manipulates' the reader to see the world according to the 'ideology' presented by the narration".

³³⁸¹ Culpepper (1983: 34-49) sees the relationship that is established within the gospel of John. He (1983: 34-49; cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 389; Greimas and Courtés, 1979: 237-8) says that, "... the role of the narrator, his point of view, and his relationship to Jesus and the implied author has at least established the contours of his identity". Point of view is the way a story gets told'. Cf. Resseguie, 2001: 1-130; Abrams, 1993: 165; Chatman, 1978: 152; Rimmon-Kenan, 1983: 71-85; Genette, 1980: 185-211; Bal, 1985: 100-14.

³³⁸² Also refer to Quintilian, *Inst.* 10.2.1-2; Lincoln, 2000: 19-21; Funk, 1988: 133-162.

³³⁸³ Dodd (1963: 318; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 7; Lindars, 2000: 83-4) says that, "It is true that the entire gospel is addressed to its reader, often by irony, paradox, or riddling speech, to dig more deeply, but the *dramatis personae* do not represent the reader. In the main, at any rate, their role is passive and they serve as foils".

³³⁸⁴ Stibbe (1993: 15) states that, "The author of John's Gospel has actually constructed a narrator with a specific point of view and a specific purpose. This point of view is the omniscient perspective of one who sees the events in the light of the resurrection of Jesus and, indeed, in the light of eternity. The purpose is a rhetorical one: to persuade the reader to believe that Jesus of Nazareth was and is the Son of God (John 20:31)".

³³⁸⁵ While Nicodemus, the invalid person, the blind man, and others represent the male characters, the Samaritan woman, Martha, and Mary represent female characters.

³³⁸⁶ While Nicodemus represents the Jews, the Samaritan woman and the Greeks (12: 20-26) represent the non-Jews.

³³⁸⁷ While Nicodemus represents the upper class of the society, the Samaritan woman, the invalid person, and others represent the lower class of the society.

³³⁸⁸ Nortjé-Meyer (2009: 123) says, "By relating male and female characters in John, new dimensions are added to gender as an important aspect of characterisation. Gender is a social construct, and as related to a literary character it is established by the roles attributed to a character within the narrative and by the context from which it is drawn".

³³⁸⁹ Garver (1994: 90-1; cf. Rorty, 1996: 1-4; Neyrey, 2007: 5-7) says that, "[Aristotle] often says that the character of the speaker is the most authoritative means of persuasion: e.g., '*ethos* constitutes the most effective [*kuriata*] of proof". Van der Watt (2012: 2; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 167-96) says that, "Since choice, selection, and rejection plays a significant role in writing a plot, it is inevitable that the author had a specific ideology ... which is reflected in the text and which reflect some ethical convictions". Van der Watt (2012: 2) says that, "The narrative arranges the event characters are involved, into a 'coherent and meaningful temporal and causal sequence'".

Resseguie, 2005: 167-96; Culpepper, 1983: 15-49).³³⁹⁰ In John, the story of Jesus and his interlocutors is presented through the viewpoint of the narrator. The overarching point of view of the narrator is shaped with the help of the story of Jesus and the perspectives of the characters within it. He reinterprets the events in order to align the story of Jesus with the story of the Johannine community (cf. Kysar, 2005: 65-81). The narrator sides with Jesus and speaks on behalf of him (cf. Neyrey, 2007: 7).³³⁹¹ Through narrative asides, he 'manipulates' the reader to do the same (cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 390).³³⁹² The ideological struggle between 'from above' and 'from below' is established through the narratorial framework of the story (cf. Chatman, 1978: 153).³³⁹³ Often the reader finds it difficult to distinguish between the points of view of the narrator and the protagonist (cf. with *Euthyphro*).³³⁹⁴ This narrative pattern communicates directly to the reader through the medium of the verbal exchanges between Jesus and his interlocutors (cf. Green, 2003: 37-66).³³⁹⁵ In the process, the foregrounded voice of Jesus functions as the linkage between the narrator and the reader (cf. Du Toit, 2009: 110-20).³³⁹⁶ Thus the narrator dynamically interconnects the dialogue and the narrative to make his point of view clear to the reader.

³³⁹⁰ Stibbe (1993: 17) says that, "He [Jesus] is the light shining in the darkness, a light which the darkness can neither apprehend nor comprehend (John 1:5). Yet this quality of elusiveness is not usually indicated by direct, explicit commentary on the part of the narrator. As in Hebrew storytelling it is suggested first of all through Jesus' words. His language is rich in misunderstood metaphors, enigmatic word-pictures and discontinuous dialogues. It is also suggested through his actions".

³³⁹¹ As it is in the case of the Platonic dialogues where it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between the voices of Socrates the protagonist and Plato the narrator, in John sometimes a reader find difficulty in distinguishing the voices of Jesus the protagonist and John the narrator. In the words of Penner (1992: 124), "The distinction between Socratic and more distinctively Platonic dialogues has been made more secure by the stylometric investigations of the past hundred and more years". Kahn (1996: 36; cf. Schaeffer, 1988: 387-95) states that, "Plato's compositions in the dramatic dialogue form achieved an immense literary success. But Plato's use of this form, in which he himself never appears, creates formidable difficulties for the interpretation of his thought. The anonymity of the dialogue form presents the interpreter with a problem that is unparalleled for any other philosopher". While in Plato the stylometric differences can be noticed within the categories of early, middle, and later chronological dialogues, it is hard in John to find the stylometric differences as the entire gospel is sustained as a single whole. For more details concerning Socratic and Platonic distinctions, refer to Dancy, 2006: 70-84; Irwin, 2008: 63-87; Kahn, 1996: 47-8. In John too we find the anonymity of the narrator as an important difficulty in the process of interpretation.

³³⁹² Lindars (2000: 35) says that, "Though the readers are rarely addressed directly (but cf. 20:31), the Gospel challenges them to a decision all the way through . . . The presentation is controlled by the skillful use of dialogue, or dramatic monologue, to engage the readers on the side of Jesus and to confront them personally with the decision which is set before Jesus' audience in the play".

³³⁹³ Resseguie (2005: 167; cf. Neyrey, 2007: 5-7) says that, "The actions of the characters, their dialogue, their rhetoric, and the setting are presented through the narrator's perspective. The influence of point of view is seen in the events a narrator selects for the story, what the characters say or do, what settings are elaborated, what comments and evaluations are made, and so forth".

³³⁹⁴ While in *Euthyphro* the narrator's role is limited, in John's story the narrator role is significant. Culpepper (1983: 34) says that, "The narrator knows who Jesus is and what he knows. They both know 'all things'. The narrator, however, serves as an authoritative interpreter of Jesus' words".

³³⁹⁵ Funk (1988: 4-5; cf. Hrushovski, n.d., 13; Green and Pasquarello III, 2003: 30-1) states that, "It is important to emphasise that it is only through the text the reader (and critic) have access to the story or to the narrator. Of the various components belonging to the narrative transaction, only the narrative discourse, the text, is directly available to the reader or critic".

³³⁹⁶ Ricoeur (1988: 3: 164; cf. Lee, 2004: 163-218) says that, "Without the reader who accompanies it, there is no configuring act at work in the text; and without a reader to appreciate it, there is no world unfolded before the text".

Seventh, the plot structure (*mythos*, in Greek; cf. Frye, 1957: 162, 187)³³⁹⁷ of the dialogue as the slots/episodes develop in an interconnected way (cf. Van der Watt, 2012: 1-2; Stibbe 94-5, 102-3).³³⁹⁸ Brooks (1984: 5; cf. Brant, 2004: 26-73) says that, "Plot is the principle of interconnectedness and intention which we cannot do without in moving through the elements—incidents, episodes, actions—of a narrative".³³⁹⁹ The Johannine narrator maintains the important elements of a plot, such as sequence, causality, unity of action, conflict, suspense, and surprise, and effective power (Aristotle, *Poet.* 1450b-1451b; Culpepper, 1983: 80; Culler, 1978: 63-95).³⁴⁰⁰ The narrator organises the slots in relation to one another within the framework, and the episodes in relation to one another within the larger framework of the Gospel of John (Ricoeur, 1984: 1: 230; 1985: 2: 7-8; Kennedy, 1984: 3-38).³⁴⁰¹ This structure of the Gospel provides sequence and development in the storyline (cf. Funk, 1988: 3-4; Traugott and Prager, 1979: 19-35).³⁴⁰² The order of the BS reveals the masterplan of the narrator: a *beginning* (chapters 1-4), a *middle* (chapters 5-10), and an *ending* (chapters 11-12; cf. Van Aarde, 2009: 386-9; Stibbe, 1993: 53).³⁴⁰³ As in Plato (cf. Press, 2007: 64; Culpepper, 1983: 86-98), in John, the "dialogues are lively passages of stichomythia (speeches, stitched together), line-for-line dialogue that sharpens the issue, followed by more relaxed and reflective passages". The plot development of the Gospel gives strength to the story (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 197-240; Funk, 1988: 2-25).³⁴⁰⁴ A reader who concentrates only on the slots/episodes of the gospel may not understand the dynamic force of the story. But that can be understood only through a sequential and integrated reading of the narrative (cf. Kermode, 1986: 3-16; Dodd, 1960: 383-9).³⁴⁰⁵ The analeptic and proleptic features of the BS provide greater strength for the understanding of each slot/episode in relation to the whole.

³³⁹⁷ Resseguie (2005: 198-203; cf. Lincoln, 2000: 29-33; Brant, 2004: 26-73; Chatman, 1978: 63-79; Funk, 1988: 2-25) argues that 'unity of action', 'causation', 'conflict', and 'suspense and surprise' are the important elements of a plot.

³³⁹⁸ Press (2007: 57) discusses about the Platonic dialogues in the following way: "Each dialogue is a story of a special kind. Each has a discernible plot and identifiable moments". In the BS, though the episodes are arranged sequentially to tell the single story of Jesus, each episode is structured as a story and each one is a special kind of story (cf. Moore, 1989: 14-5; Lincoln, 1994: 3-30; Templeton, 1999: 53-65; Barus, 2006: 134; Jasper, 1987: 27-42).

³³⁹⁹ Abrams (1971: 127; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 79-98) argues that, "The plot in a dramatic or narrative work is the structure of its actions, as these are ordered and rendered toward achieving particular emotional and artistic effects".

³⁴⁰⁰ In the BS, the plot develops also through the essential characteristics such as 'order', 'amplitude', and 'necessary connection'. For more information about the development of plot in John, refer to Culpepper (1983: 80; Stibbe, 1993: 13-4; Lincoln, 2000: 29-33; also see 'Macro-Analysis' section. See Kennedy's (1984: 3-38) description about 'arrangement of incidents' (cf. Lincoln, 2000: 29-33; Baldick, 1990: 170-1; Carey and Snodgrass, 1999: 116) description about 'arrangement of incidents'.

³⁴⁰¹ In the *Phaedrus* (264c) Plato says that every discourse should be like a living body in which the parts are well joined together. Cf. Kennedy, 1984: 23; Majercik, 1992: 2: 185-8.

³⁴⁰² Chatman (1978: 43; cf. Lincoln, 2000: 29-33) says that, "The events of a story are traditionally said to be arranged in an array called 'plot'. Aristotle defined plot (*mythos*) as the 'arrangement of incidents. Structuralist narratology argues that the arrangement is precisely the operation performed by discourse. The events in a story are thus arranged by its discourse, the *modus* of presentation".

³⁴⁰³ For more details, refer to Brant, 2004: 42-73; Kennedy, 1984: 33; Culpepper, 1983: 80.

³⁴⁰⁴ Russian formalists differentiate between *fabula* (story) and *sjuzet* (plot or discourse; cf. Resseguie, 2005: 197-240). Eco (1979: 27) reports that, "The *fabula* is the basic story stuff, the logic of actions or the syntax of the time-oriented course of events. It need not necessarily be a sequence of human actions (physical or not), but it may concern a temporal transformation of ideas or a series of events concerning inanimate objects. The plot is the *sjuzet* actually told, along with all its deviations, digressions, flashbacks, and the whole of the verbal devices".

³⁴⁰⁵ Hamilton and Cairns (1961: xiv-xvii) attempt to see the Platonic dialogues as stylistic literary philosophic-poetry.

the other (cf. Moloney, 2005: 169-92; Chatman, 1978: 64).³⁴⁰⁶ Similarly, the macro-dialogue of the BS can be understood only through a grasp of the developmental processes of the slots/episodes (cf. Genette, 1980: 40, 51-67, 68-78; Larsen, 2008: 40-1).³⁴⁰⁷ Thus, the plot development of John's dialogue, in relation to the narratorial patterns, is characteristic in several ways (cf. Macro-analysis).

Eighth, the dialogue is presented in dramatic format in the BS (cf. Tan, 1993: 28-9; Hess-Lüttich, 1985: 199-214).³⁴⁰⁸ The movements and actions of the characters contribute to the development of the dialogue (cf. Barry, 1970: 10-51; Martyn, 1968/1979).³⁴⁰⁹ Brant (2004: 16; cf. Aristotle, *Poet.* 1449b) says that, "It [i.e., John's Gospel] is a mimesis of an action that is 'heroic and complete and of a certain magnitude'".³⁴¹⁰ While Martyn (1968; cf. Wright, 2009: 1-98) considers the gospel as a *two-level story/drama*,³⁴¹¹ Van der Watt (2012: 3) considers it as a *three-level story/drama*.³⁴¹² The various settings of the slots/episodes (cf. Brant, 2004: 27-30), the narrative mechanism of the story, the use of literary figures of speech/thought (cf. Lausberg, 1998: 403; Sedgewick, 1948) and style,³⁴¹³ the use of plot elements (i.e., *peripeteia*, *anagnōrisis*, and *pathos*; cf. Brant, 2004: 42-63), the characterisation of the events, and the speech patterns (i.e., use of dialogues, monologues or

³⁴⁰⁶ For more details about 'analepsis' and 'prolepsis', refer to Baldick, 1990: 9, 178-9; Funk, 1988: 187-93.

³⁴⁰⁷ Culpepper (1983: 97; cf. Stibbe, 1994: 32-53) says that, "The plot of the gospel is propelled by conflict between belief and unbelief as responses to Jesus".

³⁴⁰⁸ Duke (1985: 141; cf. Keener, 2003: 1: 10) regards John's 'dramatic style' as so similar to classical Greek drama (in contrast with the synoptics) the he believes the author shows some acquaintance with Greek drama". Cf. Hitchcock, 1911/1993: 25-64; Strachan, 1925; Bowen, 1930: 292-305; Hedrick, 1933: 115-24; Muilenburg, 1932: 40-53; Lee, 1954: 173-6; Flanagan, 1981: 264-70; Pierce, 1960: 453-4; Connick, 1948: 159-69; Martyn, 1983; Domeris, 1983: 29-35; Nicholson, 1983; Tan, 1993: 26-47; Booth, 1961: 149-65.

³⁴⁰⁹ Buber (1975: 63) states that, "When we read a drama, really read it, we may take scenario and stage directions as only clarification of the dialogue; otherwise we lose our way in a jungle of perceptions. Regarding as a species of poetry, drama is therefore the formation of the *word* as something that moves *between things*, the mystery of word and answer". Also refer to Buber, 1985: 15-6; Silberstein, 1989: 144-52.

³⁴¹⁰ Brant (2004; cf. Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24) interprets the entire gospel in terms of elements of Greek tragedy.

³⁴¹¹ Also refer to Kysar, 1975: 149-56; Kysar, 2005: 65-81; Thompson, 1996: 21-42.

³⁴¹² While Hägerland (2003: 309-22) argues against this position, Visotzky (2005: 104) attempts see four levels of meaning within the text. Kelly and Moloney (2003: 10) say that, "In the drama of divine communication, the playwright is the Father (the author of 'the work'), while the divine author's purpose is communicated under the direction of the Spirit. Thus Jesus, as the Son and Word, enacts in his role or mission what both the author and director intend. There is an interplay of three freedoms, each showing its own initiative. The director serves the play as it was conceived by the author; and the actor serves them both with his own gifts—if the audience is to experience what the author and director intended". Kelly and Moloney (2003: 11) further say that, "If the experience of God is formed within a dramatic movement of divine communication, an alert appreciation of that kind of experience is required in anyone aiming to discern its movement and direction".

³⁴¹³ Keener (2003: 1: 48; cf. Ryken, Wilhoit, and Longman III, 1998: 720-7; Van der Watt, 2009: 87-108) says that, "One obvious feature of Johannine style is repetition on a number of levels. Although rhetoric did not recommend 'a limited repetitive vocabulary', in John's case it does offer 'rhetorical emphasis and amplification to the central themes. Narrative repetition, characteristic of oral narratives, is also a paramount feature of this gospel". Cf. with Platonic dialogues (see Griswold, 1998: 253). Marino (1978: 41) says that "all genres acquire a right to aesthetic existence precisely through their 'poetic', 'fictional' character". Blomberg (2001: 52) states that, "there is no question that John has written up his material with distinctive and characteristic linguistic style and vocabulary". Cf. Hamilton and Cairns, 1961: xiv; Falk, 1971: 42-50; Nichols, 1971: 130-41; Botha, 1991: 71-87; Timmins, 1994: 47-64; Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 29-34; Stibbe, 1994: 73-106; Witherington, 1995: 18-27; Neyrey, 2007: 14, 70, 157, 203-4, 212, 293.

interior monologue [cf. Resseguie, 2005: 127-31, 172, 190, 192], and soliloquy)³⁴¹⁴ en-
 story to flow dramatically (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 110-3, 126-8; Resseguie, 2005: 56-86).³⁴¹⁵ C
 (1983: 199; cf. Dodd, 1960: 292-389) states that, "The dialogues, particularly those which
 misunderstandings and obvious irony, teach the reader how to read the gospel and detect it
 and subtler meanings".³⁴¹⁶ This aspect of the dialogue creates dramatic appeal and a
 effect³⁴¹⁷ upon the reader (cf. Keener, 2009: 74-6; Bowles, 2010: 7-30).³⁴¹⁸ It persuades th
 either to be a 'believer' and to be saved or to choose a life of unbelief and thus be condem
 Robbins, 1989: 161-93; Van der Watt, 2007: 51-65). This quality of the dialogue ma
 performative act in itself (cf. Tovey, 1997; Brant, 2004: 74-158).³⁴¹⁹ It provides pleasur
 reader³⁴²⁰ and helps her/him to be persuaded, provoked, and be transformed (cf. Court, 1
 86; Tovey, 2007: 41-8).³⁴²¹ Thus the text works with all the characteristic features of rhe
 The text, in that sense, cannot be reckoned as a 'passive' treatise rather an 'active' counte

³⁴¹⁴ Stibbe (1993: 140) says that, "What we have in 12:44-50 is much more like a dramatic soliloquy,
 discourse in which the hero voices his thoughts on an empty stage".

³⁴¹⁵ To know more about Plato's poetic style, refer to Kraut, 1992: 338-61; Kosman, 1992: 51-69; cf. El
 Several literary factors come in rhythmical style in Johannine writings too. The narrator's poetical compositi
 through his combination of varied literary forms. Also see Chatman, 1978: 32-3; Lothe, 2000: 6-9; Van A
 418; Lincoln, 2000: 12-182; Duke, 1985: 139-56; Culpepper, 1983: 149-202; Kennedy, 1984: 3-38; Bowles
 92; Parsenios, 2010: 1-47.

³⁴¹⁶ Culpepper (1983: 199) continues saying that, "Concrete objects and symbolic metaphors point to abstra
 or concepts. As the core symbols expand and by repetition become pervasive motifs, mere allusions to then
 light on new scenes and amplify their echoes in the reader's memory".

³⁴¹⁷ For more information about the use of reality effects in the BS, refer to Stibbe, 1993: 76.

³⁴¹⁸ Kahn (1996: 36) states that, "Plato's compositions in the dramatic dialogue form achieved an immer
 success". Resseguie (2005: 126-27) says that the "two generally recognised techniques of the characterise
showing and *telling*) are used to present the characters dramatically before the reader. In showing, Abra
 "Character and Characterisation"; quoted in Resseguie, 2005: 127) says that, "the author simply presents the
 talking and acting and leaves the reader to infer the motives and dispositions that lie behind what they sa
 Resseguie (2005: 127) says that, "The narrator can use a setting, such as a lame man on a mat at a pool (t
 show us not only his physical attributes but also his social ranking in first-century Palestinian society. Or t
 can rely upon what a character says and does, or what others say, to show his or her traits". Resseguie (t
 further says that, "In *telling*, which is also called *direct presentation*, the narrator intervenes to comment di
 character—singling out a trait for us to notice or making an evaluation of a character and his or her m
 disposition".

³⁴¹⁹ For more details about performative language/texts, refer to Van der Watt, 2010: 139-67; Greimas at
 1979: 226-8; Greimas, 1987: 74-80; Traugott and Pratt, 1980: 15-7; Fairclough, 1992. Brant (2004: 114;
 1962; Tovey, 1997) says that, "When the verbal gestures of the protagonist that interpret reality collide wi
 other characters, conflict develops, and speech becomes the principal action of the drama".

³⁴²⁰ Warren and Wellek (1955: 21) say that, "The pleasure of literature, we need to maintain, is not one
 among a long list of possible pleasures but is a 'higher pleasure' because pleasure in a higher kind of activit
 acquisitive contemplation".

³⁴²¹ Court (1997: 84; cf. Chatman, 1978: 151; Moore, 1989: 46) says that, "Communication from the real
 author to the real (actual) reader proceeds by means of the theoretical chain of persons included within the
 'Narrative text'".

³⁴²² In Aristotle's view Plato's form was halfway between poetry and prose (cf. Hamilton and Cairns,
 Hamilton and Cairns (1961: xv) say that "as the author of the dialogues, he [Plato] was a philosopher-poe
 consummate artistry in his presentation of ideas". This is also applied to the Johannine narrator.

the reader.³⁴²³ It happens only when the narrator takes extra effort to tell the story dramatically through the means of *showing* and *telling* (cf. Quintilian, *Inst.* 10.1.19-27, 10.2.1-2, 10.2.27; Elam, 1980: 1-191; Bowles, 2010: 7-30).³⁴²⁴ In the process of the dramatic description, the narrator also uses *front of stage* and *rear of stage* developments and *foregrounding* and *backgrounding* of the *dramatis personae* (see Episode # 5; cf. Baldick, 1990: 86).³⁴²⁵ Thus the *ethos-logos-pathos* connectivity is well-established in the characterisation and the narrative structure of the BS (cf. Garver, 1994: 53, 90-1; Hays and Holladay, 2007: 93-4).³⁴²⁶

Ninth, the thematic development of the story can be understood mostly on the basis of the dialogic progression (cf. Stibbe, 1993: 33, 35-8, 40-1, 51-2, 63-4, 71, 80, 86, 96, 109-10, 115, 129-30; Schnackenburg, 1980: 1: 153-72). Dodd (1960: 383) rightly says that, in John “a theme is introduced and developed up to a point; then a second theme is introduced and the two are interwoven; then a third, and so on”.³⁴²⁷ This method of the development of the themes is used with the help of *repetitions and variations* (cf. Van der Watt, 2009b: 87-108). The characters’ speech and the interaction ‘for’ and ‘against’ provide insights for the development of the themes. Mostly, the themes are developed on the basis of Jesus’ speeches, and are supplemented with narrative asides. While Jesus the protagonist speaks on the basis of his relationship with the Father, he teaches the aspect of ‘eternal life’ (3:15, 16, 36; 5:24, 40; 6:40, 47, 53, 54; 10:10; cf. Dodd, 1960: 144-50; Zimmermann, 2008: 75-101)³⁴²⁸ and reveals the ‘from above’ perspective (cf. Beasley-Murray, 1991; Ihenacho, 2001: 3-355).³⁴²⁹ The Jews, who are the antagonists,

³⁴²³ Davies (1992: 25) says that, “The narrative is dominated by dialogue and monologue. There are few examples of indirect speech (e.g., 4:47, 51-52; 12:12, 29; 13:29; 18:14, 27; 20:18; 21:23) and some of these recap what had already been given in direct speech (e.g., 18:14, 27; 20:18)”.

³⁴²⁴ Refer to Resseguie, 2005: 126-30; Stibbe, 1993: 15-6, 137-8.

³⁴²⁵ For more details about the *dramatis personae*, refer to Hitchcock, 1923/1993: 15-24; Brant, 2004: 159-232.

³⁴²⁶ Kennedy (1991: ix; cf. Culpepper, 1983: 83; Frye, 1957: 187) in his preface to Aristotle’s work says that, “Aristotle was the first person to recognise clearly that rhetoric as an art of communication was morally neutral, that it could be used either for good or ill. Its persuasion, he says, depends on three things: the truth and logical validity of what is being argued; the speaker’s success in conveying to the audience the perception that he or she can be trusted; and the emotions that a speaker is able to awaken in an audience to accept the views advanced and act in accordance with them”.

³⁴²⁷ Dodd (1960: 383) further says that, “A theme may be dropped, and later resumed and differently combined, in all manner of harmonious variations. The themes are those of life, light and judgment, the passion and the glory of Christ, and the like. Each is enunciated and exemplified in various ways, and by the end of chap. 12 they are all been brought into a unified presentation of the whole truth about Christ and His work”.

³⁴²⁸ Dodd (1960: 133) says that, “In the former part of the work, chaps. 1-12 (or, if we set apart the proem, 2-12), which corresponds to the account of the Ministry of Jesus in the other gospels, the narrative serves mainly as framework for a series of discourses (dialogues and monologues), all related to the dominant theme of eternal life”. Also refer to Van der Watt, 2011: 109-36; Lindars, 2000: 83-4; Thompson, 1992: 380-1; Donahue, ed., 2005; Painter, 2011: 27-42. The logos-light-life connection is one of the significant features of Johannine discourses (cf. Dodd, 1960: 263-85).

³⁴²⁹ While Beasley-Murray (1991) deals the theme of life in relation to the mission of the Son of God, lifting up of the Son of Man, ministry of the Holy Spirit, church and ministry, and sacraments, Ihenacho (2001) discusses the theme within the community context. Ihenacho discusses the theme of life, its meaning, root, theology, and actualisation within the context of community tension.

misunderstand and oppose the views of Jesus.³⁴³⁰ This narratorial framework helps the th progress from one slot to the next and from one episode to the other (cf. Dodd, 1960: 29). The dualistic themes such as light and darkness,³⁴³¹ 'from above' and 'from below',³⁴³² be unbelief,³⁴³³ and truth and falsehood³⁴³⁴ develop within the narrative framework. Along these, other themes such as identities of the characters, discipleship (cf. Wilkins, 1992; Culpepper, 1983: 115-24), salvation (cf. Lindars, 2000: 81-2; Thompson, 1992: 380-2), universal significance of Jesus (4:42; cf. Van der Watt, 2007: 51-65; Koester, 1990: 665- develop. Themes like the fulfillment of the messianic promises (cf. Kelly and Moloney; Culpepper, 2000: 19-22),³⁴³⁵ Father-Jesus relationship (cf. Culpepper, 1983: 106-14; Thompson, 2001),³⁴³⁶ the hour of Jesus (2:4; 4:21, 23; 7:6, 30; 8:20; cf. Talbert, 1992: 179-88; O'Da 161-6),³⁴³⁷ glorification,³⁴³⁸ lifting up of the Son of Man (3:14; 8:28; cf. Maniparampil, 2009; Giles, 1992: 46-50), and witness (cf. Trites, 1992: 879-80; Kysar, 1975: 222-4)³⁴³⁹ add strength to the dialogue. The above description gives us a clue that the dialogue within the narrative and the themes within them basically introduce two different perspectives: *first*, the 'from above' perspective of Jesus, and *second*, the 'from below' perspective of the Jews (cf. Trites, 1992: 131-6; Petersen, 1993). In the BS, the narrator takes side with the protagonist and finds the philosophy of dialogue from Jesus' point of view.³⁴⁴⁰ In that way, the utterances of the opponents are presented with a negative connotation. Through this methodology, the views of Jesus are foregrounded over against the views of his opponents. That further means the narrator attempts to 'manipulate' the reader through the themes and the voice of Jesus.

Tenth, in the BS, dialogue contributes largely to the development of theology. In the prologue the narrator describes the relationship between the God of creation and the *Logos* (1

³⁴³⁰ John's relexicalisation of items and objects affecting areas of central concern of his community is in note in the gospel. Malina and Rohrbaugh (1998: 4) say that, "Relexicalisation refers to the practice of words for some reality that is not ordinarily referred to with those words".

³⁴³¹ Also see the theme "'knowing' versus 'not knowing'" in Dodd, 1960: 151-69; Neyrey, 2007: 7, 44, 50, 78, 89, 144, 153, 169, 204, 232, 317-8.

³⁴³² Refer to Nicholson, 1980: 21.

³⁴³³ Refer to Dodd, 1960: 179-86; Chakkuvarackal, 2007: 35-53; Painter, 2011: 71-82; Thompson, 1992: 380-2. For more details about 'belief' (faith) in John, refer to Brant, 2004: 4-5, 42, 47-9, 65-8, 70, 157, 166, 177, 183-4, 205-6, 209, 222-3, 225, 232, 258.

³⁴³⁴ Refer to Barrett, 1982: 98-115; Dodd, 1960: 170-8.

³⁴³⁵ See some of the OT questions in the BS: Isa 40:3 (1:23); Gen 28:12 (1:51); Psalm 68(69):10 (2:17); 115/Psalm 77(78):24-25 (6:31); Psalm 88(89):4-5/Mic 5:1(2) (7:42); Eze 34:23; 37:24 (10:16); Psalm 81(82):1-2 (11:1-2); Psalm 117(118):25-26 (12:13); Zech 9:9 (12:15); Psalm 6:3 and 41(42):7 (12:27); Isa 53:1 (12:38); Isa 6:1 (13:1). Also see Thompson, 1992: 378; Beutler, 1996: 147-62; Dodd, 1960: 228-40; Schneiders, 2005: 178-9.

³⁴³⁶ Also refer to Meyer, 1996: 255-73; Dodd, 1960: 187-200, 389.

³⁴³⁷ For more details, refer to Culpepper, 1983: 34, 36, 39, 40, 62, 71, 90, 91, 92, 94, 95, 108, 133, 174, 222, 225.

³⁴³⁸ Refer to Dodd, 1960: 201-12; Burge, 1992: 269-70; Neyrey, 2007: 25-6, 40, 45, 216-8, 235.

³⁴³⁹ For more details about the theme of 'witness' in John, refer to Painter, 2011: 61-70.

³⁴⁴⁰ Dodd (1960: 384) says that, "The unity of structure is the single episode composed of narrative and discourse related to a single dominant theme. The incidents narrated receive an interpretation of their evangelical significance from the discourses; or, to put it otherwise, the truths enunciated in the discourses are given dramatic expression in the actions described. Act and word are one; and this unity of act and word is fundamental to the Johannine Gospel and distinguishes it from the abstract intellectualism or mysticism of much of the thought of the time".

Thompson, 1988: 13-31; Miller, 1993: 445-57).³⁴⁴¹ The interaction between God the Father and the Son-*logos*, presented both in explicit and implicit terms, has to be understood as a 'divine' dialogue that stabilises the 'earthly' dialogues (cf. Van der Watt, 2012: 3; Culpepper, 1983: 106-15).³⁴⁴² The 'earthly' dialogues³⁴⁴³ are rooted in and emerge from the 'divine' interaction between the Father and the Son (cf. Petersen, 1993: 66-9; Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 1-28).³⁴⁴⁴ Filling up of this important gap is very significant in the process of understanding the 'earthly' dialogues.³⁴⁴⁵ In the BS, Jesus is presented as the revelation of the Father (cf. Hamid-Khani, 2000: 33-61; Ridderbos, 1987/1997: 12-4).³⁴⁴⁶ In the dialogues, his function (i.e., revealing the Father) and person (i.e., being the Word) are inseparably linked (cf. Manipampil, 2004: 88, 90; Beasley-Murray, 1978).³⁴⁴⁷ This eternal relationship between the Father and the Son appears as the basis for all other dialogues.³⁴⁴⁸ The dialogues of Jesus with his interlocutors (i.e., during his public

³⁴⁴¹ Van Kooten (2005: 149; cf. Pagels, 1999: 477-96; Painter, 2011: 12-26) says, "It has long been noted by scholars that the opening of the Prologue to John's Gospel runs parallel to the opening of *Genesis*. John's well-known statement that 'in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God' (1:1) resembles and summarises the choice of words in *Genesis*: 'In the beginning God made the heaven and the earth (. . .) and God said . . .' (1:1-3a). This speaking of God is now rendered abstract and conceptualised as the activity of God's Word, the *Logos*".

³⁴⁴² Van der Watt (2012: 3) considers this as the 'divine'/'transcendental' story behind the 'earthly' story. Meyer (1996: 255) states that, "The Jesus of this Gospel frequently claims to say and do and impart only what he has heard and seen and received from the Father (3:11; 5:19; 8:26, 28, 40; 20:21). Furthermore, the evangelist comments that the Father 'has placed all things in [the Son's] hands' (3:35)". He (1996: 255; cf. Bultmann, 1969: 173) further says that, "The implications are restrictive: God is known and God's presence felt only because the Son alone 'presents' God to the world, is wholly transparent to God, and is the only reliable vehicle for God's presence and action in the world: '*apart from the revelation God is not here and is never here*'. The only 'presentation of God' in the Fourth Gospel is the self-presentation of Christ in its narratives and discourses".

³⁴⁴³ I.e., the dialogue in the public ministry of Jesus, the dialogue in the Johannine community context, and the other levels suggested by Visotzky, 2005: 104.

³⁴⁴⁴ Neyrey (2007: 7) states that, "John presents Jesus as a group-oriented person. He is and remains totally embedded in his heavenly Father, even resting on his heart (1:18). He speaks and does all, but only what his Father instructs him: His Father gives him his own powers (5:19-28), reveals only to him unique words and mysteries, and guides and directs his career from his descent from heaven to his 'lifting up' and his 'glorification' by God".

³⁴⁴⁵ As Stibbe (1994: 9) rightly states, "In the case of John's portrayal of his hero, the active participation of the reader is essential because there are many 'gaps' in the story". Stibbe (1993: 136; cf. Petersen, 1993: 66-9; Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 1-28) further says that, "... even when the heavens do open in John's story (and notice that they do not open at Jesus' baptism in 1:32-34), the hidden-ness and transcendence of God are in no way compromised. The elusiveness of the Son is seen to be at one with the elusiveness of the Father, vindicating Jesus' assertion, 'I and the Father are one' (10:30)".

³⁴⁴⁶ Koester (2005: 151-52) states that, "The theme of glory takes us into yet another theological world, one that deals with the human need to know God. The word 'glory' (*doxa*) sometimes connotes honor (5:41), but in John's gospel glory also has to do with the way God is revealed to human beings. This theological world recognises that people were created to know God".

³⁴⁴⁷ Culpepper (1983: 113; cf. Stibbe, 1993: 27, 135-6) says that, "'Sending' characterises God's self-revelation. The Father 'gives' or invites Jesus with Life (5:26), his works (5:36), what he should say (12:49; 14:10, 24, 31; 17:8), his name (17:11), and his glory (17:22, 24). The implicit corollary is that the one who sent is in some sense distant from those who receive. John the Baptist (1:6) and Jesus (7:29; 9:16, 33; 16:27; 17:8), and all that mediates, are 'from God' (1:14; 5:44; 8:26, 40; 10:18; 15:15, 26; 17:7)". Culpepper (1983: 113) further says that, "The dualism between that which is from God and that which is not is thereby established, so being 'from God' has more spiritual than spatial connotations. God is the reality beyond, the transcendent presence".

³⁴⁴⁸ Neyrey (2007: 7) says that, "Jesus, faithful and loyal to the one who sent him, never acts on his own. He is, moreover, God's broker; he is the one who is 'sent'—that is, agent and intermediary. It should be part of our reading

ministry) are to be considered as an extension of the 'divine' dialogue.³⁴⁴⁹ The central message of the BS can be explained as 'God's communication of his message to the world through the medium of Son-*logos*' (cf. Tolmie, 1998: 57-75; Michaels, 1984/1989: 19-27).³⁴⁵⁰ The Johannine concept of the "Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (1:14) functions as the outcome of the movements and interactions between the Father and the Son at the rear of the stage (cf. Ringe, 1990: 35-58; Van Kooten, 2005: 149-94).³⁴⁵¹ It is the "communication of God" to the world through his Son (cf. Conway, 2002: 479-95; Ringe, 1999: 10-28).³⁴⁵² Culpepper (1983: 114; Davey, 1958: 77-8) says that, "Jesus' dialogue gives the impression that he is always conscious of his dependence on the Father".³⁴⁵³ This idea is interwoven within the episodic framework especially through Jesus' repeated references to the Father and the attribution of divine titles to him.³⁴⁵⁴ The synagogue and church dialogue in the Johannine community context is rooted in two levels of dialogue (cf. Martyn, 1968/1979: 24-151; Kysar, 1975: 149-56).³⁴⁵⁵ The Johannine community was in constant conflict with the world and their existence was under threat, and 'life' was the key concept introduced to them (cf. Dodd, 1960: 133, 144-50; Ihenacho, 2001: 107-32). The evangelist reinterprets the 'divine'/'transcendental' story and the story of the earthly Jesus in the community in his own idiom (cf. Van der Watt, 2012: 3).³⁴⁵⁷ Thus he presents the stories in a dynamic combination within the narrative framework of John, which is character-

of this gospel to note the group-oriented characteristics of friend and foe. Disciples, for example, hear Jesus (10:3-5), accept his teachings (12:23-26), are instructed in his secrets (15:15), and imitate his behaviour (13:34-35).

³⁴⁴⁹ There comes the role of the combination of the meta-themes "revelation and response" (cf. Painter, 2011: 3450). Gench (2007: 2; cf. Calvin, 1956: 22; Culpepper, 1983: 114-5; Bauckham, 1998: 1-48) says that, "The evangelist referred to as the 'Word' (*Logos* in Greek), was distinct from God and in communion 'with God', yet also identified with God ('was God'). This profound mystery, which is confessed rather than explained, gives expression to the Christian community's ever-deepening reflection on the absolute significance of Jesus Christ: 'Christ is so great that he could not simply have come into being like any other person or object'".

³⁴⁵¹ Also refer to O'Day, 2005: 159-61.

³⁴⁵² Culpepper (1983: 114) says that, "No one has seen God, but Jesus made Him known (1:18). While John maintains God's transcendence, it also depicts God as a 'Father' who loves and seeks a believing response from the world. All initiative remains with Him as He 'gives' and 'draws' believers, but believing, more precisely than knowing Jesus as the revealer, is necessary".

³⁴⁵³ Also see Robinson, 1973: 68; Barrett, 1974: 144-59.

³⁴⁵⁴ Especially see "the lamb of God" (1:29, 36), "the bread of God" (6:33), "the holy one of God" (6:69), "the Son of God" (10:36; 20:31). For more details, refer to Culpepper, 1983: 113-14. Culpepper (1983: 108) says that Jesus says about himself and his mission progressively defines his relationship to the Father and exposes the relationship to others".

³⁴⁵⁵ Also refer to Visotzky, 2005: 92-104; Hägerland, 2003: 309-22; Lindars, 2000: 68-70; Bauckham, 2001: 101-1).

³⁴⁵⁶ Ringe (1999: 27; cf. Lindars, 2000: 73-4; Bauckham, 2001: 101-1) says, "The picture we get is of a community fighting for its own integrity by setting itself over against—and yet still connected to—other Christians (the churches of the Synoptic tradition), and also over against such outsiders as the followers of John the Baptist, the community's principal antagonists, 'the Jews'". Also refer to Petersen, 1993: 66-9; Johnson, 1992: 469-71.

³⁴⁵⁷ Maniparampil (2004: 89) says that, "Jesus of the Fourth Gospel speaks John's language, i.e., the Church. The Beloved Disciple presents the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their language and style. It is the Gospel of John according to John". Refer to Coloe, 2007; Meeks, 1972: 44-72; Hays, 1996: 138-57; Ihenacho, 2001: 107-32; Byrne, 1985: 83-97; Thomas, 1993; Kysar, 1975: 149-56; Culpepper, 1975: 261-88; Culpepper, 2003: 3-4, 11, 28-30, 38, 43, 45, 47, 49, 66-8, 70, 121-2, 125, 153, 186-7, 211, 225.

by dramatic features such as dialogues and monologues, cause and effect, and suspense and surprise (cf. Resseguie, 2005: 199-20, 202-3; Powell, 1990: 40-2).³⁴⁵⁸

In recapitulation, the above mentioned episodic and dialogical framework and the characteristic literary features provide a special appeal for the reader.³⁴⁵⁹ Any reading that neglects the dialogues and discourses, slot and episodic sequence, and the dramatic and rhetorical features of the BS overlooks some of its significant semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic aspects (cf. Maniparampil, 2004; Court, 1997).³⁴⁶⁰ The narrator and the implied reader dynamism (cf. Iser, 1978: 291; Culpepper, 1983: 148)³⁴⁶¹ within the text enables a paradigmatic reader to understand the narrative world of the gospel as it is dualistically designed for a dialogue between the “world from above” and the “world from below” (cf. Culpepper, 2000: 22-6; Kysar, 1975: 215-21).³⁴⁶² A reader finds this dynamism of the text as an interpretative means to get engaged with the text. The purpose statement of the narrator (20:30-31; cf. 21:25)³⁴⁶³ makes the reader aware of the logic behind all the events and the discourses appear in a coherent fashion (cf. Schneiders, 1999/2003; Collins, 1990).³⁴⁶⁴ The narrator is fully concerned to inspire people to believe/continue to believe in Jesus that he is the Messiah and the Son of God and through believing they may receive ‘eternal life’ and be saved (cf. Lindars, 2000: 81-4; Johnson, 1992: 469-71).³⁴⁶⁵ This message is presented profoundly through dramatic features and rhetorical means in the BS (cf. Kelly and Moloney, 2003: 9-13). The dialogues/discourses of the BS are used to communicate the message through the “‘Word’ of God”.

³⁴⁵⁸ Also refer to Chatman, 1978: 59-62.

³⁴⁵⁹ Brant (2004: 28; cf. Martyn, 1968: 26-7) says that, “The gospel writer clearly is following a theatrical convention as a way of handling the centrality of dialogue to the action of the gospel”.

³⁴⁶⁰ See Dodd’s (1960: 292-389) episodic description of the BS. Also refer to Gench (2007) to understand the encounters in the gospel. For understanding the ‘discourse features’ (especially, narrative episodes, storytelling, and drama), refer to Bowles, 2010: 7-92.

³⁴⁶¹ For more details about the narrator and implied reader dynamism, refer to Chatman, 1978: 149-51. Iser (1978: 291; quoted in Bennema, 2009: 212) puts it, “‘identification’ is not an end in itself, but a stratagem by means of which the author stimulates attitudes in the reader”.

³⁴⁶² Painter (1996: 348; cf. Petersen, 1993; Lindars, 2000: 113; Painter, 2011: 4) says that, “Indeed the paradox of evil in a good creation is heightened in the Johannine context, where a world made for and by the revealing activity of God rejects that revelation. That heightened paradox is further expressed in terms of the darkness of the world, in which the light of the eternal Logos shines. Thus the worldview is one involving the presence and power of a prevailing darkness in a world created for and by the power of the light of the eternal Logos”. Bennema (2009: 210) says that, “The Johannine characters reflect the *human* perspective, representing the gamut of responses that people make in life, while from a *divine* perspective these responses are ultimately evaluated as acceptance or rejection”.

³⁴⁶³ Bennema (2009: 210) states that, “John’s evaluative point of view corresponds to both the soteriological purpose of his narrative (20:31) and his dualistic worldview in which there is scope for only two responses to Jesus—acceptance and rejection. John’s evaluative point of view therefore allows for two options—adequate and inadequate”.

³⁴⁶⁴ Brant (2004: 65; cf. Kealy, 1978: 162-3) states that, “The two epilogues of the gospel invite the audience to judge the composition worthy of praise and marshal opinion in favor of its claims”.

³⁴⁶⁵ Neyrey (2007: 332; cf. Helms, 1988: 83-100) says that, “the primary feature of the narrative is the honor of Jesus, for the ‘signs’ were written to acclaim Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God”. Thompson (1992: 382; cf. Schneiders, 1999/2003; Brant, 2004: 64-70; Brown, 1970: 2: 1056; Painter, 2011: 27-42, 71-82) says that, “Certainly the Gospel of John emphasises the necessity of the individual appropriation of faith in God through Jesus Christ. However, the individualistic tenor of the Gospel is balanced by its stress on one’s obligation with the community of faith. The community of which the believer becomes a part is characterised by its unity and love”.

3. Further Considerations

It is our hope that this study has served as a modest contribution to the field of dialogical Johannine scholarship. But at the same time, our study is obviously not the final word on the Johannine dialogue. The following possibilities can be explored further in future research. *First*, this study can be extended to the rest of the gospel, i.e., John 13:1-21:25. As dialogue and structure (13:1-17:26; 18:1-19:42; 20:1-31; 21:1-25) are apparent in the BG, a study proposed as a continuation of the present study with a title “The Nature and Function of Dialogue in John 13:1-21:25”. *Second*, our theory of dialogue can presumably be extended to the Synoptic Gospels (see Part One, 4.1.4) and the Book of Acts. Besides, a comparative analysis of dialogues in the Synoptics and John would reveal the degree of continuity and discontinuity in the portrayal of dialogues between these writings.³⁴⁶⁶ *Third*, as dialogue already existed as an established literary genre in the first century CE, an exclusive concern on how the dialogue/continuity/discontinuity comes into the fore between Johannine dialogues and other genres (i.e., ancient religious, Platonic, Xenophonic, Aristotelian, Ciceronian, and the like; see Part One, 4.1.1 and 4.1.2). *Fourth*, a study can be proposed focusing on the similarities and differences between the dialogues of the OT and John (see Part One, 4.1.3). *Finally*, a study can be proposed on the dialogue of the genres within the narrative framework of John. The researcher can explore how various literary forms (i.e., signs, discourses, figures of speech, metaphors, and other dialogically stitched together to frame the gospel artistically and persuasively. The mentioned studies may add further strength to the current study and, in turn, the present study can be considered as a beginner for other studies.

³⁴⁶⁶ See the suggestion of Bennema (2009: 213) with regard to character.

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Summary (English)

The primary aim of this dissertation is to analyse and identify the nature and function of dialogue in the BS. Though the Gospel of John is extensively studied, a comprehensive treatment of its dialogue, i.e., within the framework of narratives and in relation to monologues and other literary genres, has not been adequately explored by scholars. This specific context necessitates a genre analysis of John's dialogue. Questions such as 'how does John use the literary genre called dialogue?', 'what is the central idea that governs the dialogue?', 'what type of information is conveyed through them?', 'how are they structured?', 'what are their peculiar literary characteristics?', and 'what is their theological/rhetorical function?' are extensively treated and evaluated within the present study. Moreover, other hypothetical questions like 'how are the self-revelatory aspects conveyed through the dialogues?', 'what are the ways slots/episodes function within the narrative framework?', 'how do the content, form, and function contribute to the semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic levels?', 'how are dialogues involved in expressing the aspects of the Johannine community?', and 'how is Johannine dialogue related to or different from other dialogues of the time?' are also treated here. In this study, our focus is on the BS in which the reader identifies a great deal of dialogue in comparison to the latter half of the gospel. The layers such as the dialogue among the characters of the story and the dialogue between the narrator and the reader have a significant place and are closely examined. Through this study, the hermeneutical interests and insights of the dialogue and its interpretative significance are brought to the forefront.

In Part One, the following things are outlined. First, it introduces the rationale, aim, and task of the dissertation, where the primary questions of the thesis, as mentioned above, are introduced. Second, it attempts to review some of the works related to dialogue by scholars such as Bultmann, Strachan, Dodd, Brown, and others. The review is designed to show that the previous studies either lack breadth or depth. Third, the methodological aspects of the research are stated with an intention of filling the gaps that are obvious in the previous works. Fourth, the use of dialogue as a literary genre before and during the time of John (i.e., religious and philosophical, and OT and synoptic traditions) is brought to the fore in order to state that dialogue was a well-established genre in John's thought-world. A proposed definition of dialogue in John and the plan of the research bring to a close Part One of the study.

In Part Two, the BS (1:19-12:50) is analysed genre-critically. The use of a problem-oriented approach in order to discern the nature and function of dialogue provides extensive results. In the analysis, we are able to show that the first half of the gospel is divided into thirteen episodes (i.e., 1:19-2:11; 2:13-22; 3:1-21; 3:22-36; 4:1-42; 4:43-54; 5:1-47; 6:1-71; 7:1-52/8:12-59; 9:1-10:21; 10:22-42; 11:1-54; and 11:55-12:50) and those episodes are composed of several slots and sub-slots. The genre-theories of David Hellholm and David Aune are applied to the Johannine text in order to show the development of dialogue in relation to other literary genres within the narrative framework of the gospel. The elaboration of settings at the beginning of each episode provides dramatic appeal to the storyline. The content, form, and function analysis of the utterance, slot, and

episode units provide us with the important details concerning the semantic, syntactic and pragmatic levels of the dialogue. While at the micro-level the utterance and slot dynamics are explained, at the meso-level we assess how the utterance and slot units contribute to the development of the individual episodes. In our analysis, we also identify the way episodes are stitched together to present the story with suspense and surprise. Along with other aspects, the attempt of the narrator to engage the reader, through the medium of character-dialogue, is conspicuous in the analysis of the text.

In Part Three, first of all, we go one step further to see the development of the dialogue at the macro-level of the BS. While Part Two focuses on the description of the dialogues, Part Three discusses the classification of the dialogue(s) at the micro- and meso-levels. This further helps us to come to an understanding of the dialogue at the macro-level (i.e., within the extended framework of 1:19-12:50). We discuss the slot and episode development and some of the significant features of Johannine dialogue at the outset. Then, we examine the signs and 'I am' sayings in relation to the subject matter, the genre elements such as content, form, and function, the Johannine community aspects, and the contribution of the dialogue at the macro-level of the book. The discussion is conducted with the help of several literary critical tools and with the help of relevant (i.e., ANE and the Greco-Roman world) sources. As a result, the study helps us to identify distinctive features of dialogue in the BS. Part Three also contains the concluding remarks in which we pinpoint the significant features or insights that are the results of this study. The aspects of the characterisation, point of view, plot structure, dramatic aspects, thematic development and theological contribution are discussed in summary fashion at this point. Following the concluding remarks, suggestions for further study are offered. The study as a whole confirms that the questions raised at the beginning are adequately addressed.

Samenvatting (Nederlandse)

Het hoofddoel van deze dissertatie is het analyseren en identificeren van de eigen aard en functie van de dialoog in het eerste deel van het evangelie volgens Johannes, het Boek der Tekenen genaamd (1:1-12:50). Ook al is het evangelie van Johannes uitgebreid bestudeerd, toch hebben wetenschappers nog te weinig de mogelijkheden verkend een omvattende behandeling te geven van dialoogvormen binnen de context van verhalen en in relatie tot monologen en andere literaire genres. Deze specifieke context dwingt tot een analyse van de dialoog als genre. Daarom worden in deze dissertatie uitgebreid vragen behandeld en geëvalueerd als: 'Hoe gebruikt Johannes het literaire genre van de dialoog?', 'Welke is de centrale idee die de dialoog beheerst?', 'Welk soort informatie wordt door dialogen overgedragen?', 'Hoe zijn zij gestructureerd?', 'Welke zijn hun typische literaire kenmerken?' en 'Wat is hun theologische/rethorische functie?' Daarnaast worden andere hypothetische vragen behandeld als: 'Hoe worden aspecten van zelfopenbaring van Jezus overgedragen door de dialogen?', 'Op welke wijze functioneren de gebeurtenissen binnen het narratieve raamwerk?', 'Welke bijdrage leveren inhoud, vorm en functie ervan op semantisch, syntactisch en pragmatisch niveau?', 'Hoe zijn de dialogen betrokken in het tot uitdrukking brengen van bepaalde aspecten van de Johanneïsche gemeenschap?' en 'Hoe is de Johanneïsche dialoog verbonden met of verschillend van andere dialogen van die tijd?' In deze studie concentreren we ons op het Boek der Tekenen waarin de lezer een groot stuk van de dialoog bepaalt vergeleken met de tweede helft van het evangelie. Niveaus daarin als de dialoog tussen de karakters van het verhaal en de dialoog tussen verteller en lezer hebben een significante plaats en worden nauwgezet onderzocht. Door deze studie worden het hermeneutische belang en de interpretatieve betekenis van de dialoog naar voren gehaald.

In deel Een worden de volgende zaken geschetst. Allereerst introduceert deel I the beweegreden, het doel en de taak van de dissertatie daar waar de primaire vragen van de thesis, zoals boven vermeld, ingeleid worden. Ten tweede probeert het sommige van de werken te bespreken, verbonden met de dialoog, van auteurs als Bultmann, Strachan, Dodd, Brown en anderen. De opzet van de bespreking is te laten zien dat de vroegere studies breedte dan wel diepte missen. Ten derde worden de methodische aspecten van het onderzoek precies omschreven met de bedoeling leemten op te vullen die duidelijke aanwezig zijn in de vroegere werken. Ten vierde wordt het gebruik van de dialoog als een literair genre vóór en in de tijd van Johannes (d.w.z. in religieuze en filosofische, oudtestamentische en synoptische tradities) naar voren gehaald om vast te stellen dat de dialoog een goed geëtableerd genre was in de denkwereld van Johannes. Een voorstel tot definitie van de dialoog in Johannes en een plan van onderzoek sluiten deel I van de studie af.

In deel Twee worden de tekstgedeelten (1:19-12:50) kritisch geanalyseerd betreffende het literaire genre. Het gebruik van een probleemgerichte benadering om de eigen aard en functie van de dialoog te ontdekken levert uitgebreide resultaten. Met onze analyse zijn we in staat te laten zien dat de eerste helft van het evangelie is onderverdeeld in dertien episodes (deze zijn: 1:19-2:11; 2:13-22; 3:1-21; 3:22-36; 4:1-42; 4:43-54; 5:1-47; 6:1-71; 7:1-52/8:12-59; 9:1-10:21; 10:22-42; 11:1-54; en 11:55-12:50) Deze episodes zijn weer samengesteld uit verschillende scènes en sub scènes. De genretheorieën van David Hellholm en David Aune worden toegepast op de tekst van Johannes om de ontwikkeling te laten zien van de dialoog in relatie tot andere literaire genres binnen het narratieve raamwerk van het evangelie. De uitwerking van de 'setting' aan het begin van iedere episode geeft dramatische aantrekkingskracht aan de verhaallijn. De inhoud-, vorm- en functieanalyse van eenheden bestaande uit 'uiting-scène-episode' ('utterance-slot-episode')

leveren ons belangrijke details betreffende de semantische, syntactische en pragmatische niveaus dialoog. Terwijl op microniveau de dynamiek van scène en episode verklaard wordt, stellen mesoniveau vast hoe eenheden van 'uiting' en 'scène' ('utterance' en 'slot') bijdragen tot de ontwikkeling van de individuele, afzonderlijke episodes. In onze analyse bepalen we ook specifiek de manier waarop episodes aan elkaar gestikt worden om een verhaal te presenteren met spanning en verrassing. Tenslotte wordt de poging van de verteller om de lezer te mee te nemen door middel van dialoog als opvallend naar voren gehaald.

In deel Drie gaan we allereerst een stap verder om de ontwikkeling te zien van de dialoog op het microniveau van het Boek der Teken. Terwijl deel Twee geconcentreerd was op de beschrijving van dialogen, bediscussiëren we hier de classificatie van de dialoog(-ogen) op micro- en macroniveau. Dit brengt ons verder te komen in het begrip van de dialoog op macroniveau (d.w.z. het brede raamwerk van het Boek der Teken, 12:50). We bediscussiëren de ontwikkeling van scène en episode en van meet af aan sommige signaleer- en kenmerken van de Johanneïsche dialoog. Dan onderzoeken we de tekenen en de 'Ik ben' uitspraak in relatie tot het onderwerp, elementen van het genre zoals inhoud, vorm en functie, aspecten van de Johanneïsche gemeenschap en de bijdrage van de dialoog op het macroniveau van het Boek der Teken. De discussie wordt gevoerd met verschillende soorten literairkritisch gereedschap en met belangrijke klassieke bronnen (d.w.z. de oude culturen van het Nabije Oosten en de Grieks-Romeinse wereld). Het resultaat is dat de studie ons helpt de verschillende kenmerken van de dialoog in het Boek der Teken te identificeren. Deel Drie bevat ook de concluderende opmerkingen, waar in we de significante kenmerken en inzichten die volgen uit deze studie nauwkeurig aanwijzen. Aspecten als karakterisering, gezinsstructuur van het plot, dramatische aspecten en de theologische bijdragen worden op dit punt samen bediscussieerd. Volgend op de concluderende opmerkingen worden suggesties voor verder onderzoek aangeboden. Uit deze studie als een geheel blijkt dan dat de vragen die aan het begin gesteld zijn adequaat behandeld zijn.